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| 5 | VOLUME II |
| 6 | |
| 7 | EASTERN INTERIOR FEDERAL REGIONAL |
| 8 | SUBSISTENCE COUNCIL MEETING |
| 9 | |
| 10 | February 28, 1999 |
| 11 | |
| 12 | Delta Community Hall, Delta Junction |
| 13 | |
| 14 | Members Present: |
| 15 | |
| | Charles P. Miller, Sr., Chairman |
| | Philip J. Titus, Vice Chairman |
| | Nathaniel Good, Secretary |
| | Craig Fleener |
| | Davey James |
| | Gerald D. Nicholia |
| | Lincoln Tritt |
| | Calvin M. Tritt |
| 24 | |
| 25 | Vince Mathews, Coordinator |

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00150
                       PROCEEDINGS
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           (On record - 8:44 a.m)
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5
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Call the meeting back to
6 order. And we're into proposals. Did you have something,
7
  Craig? Do you want to revisit a proposal?
8
9
                   MR. FLEENER: I'd like to go back and revisit
10 Proposals 9 and 11 to correct some wording that I made a
11 mistake on yesterday. And George helped me out with this
12 wording so it can be a lot more like the other proposal we
13 dealt with that said that the 1344 permit holders could gain
14 access to the park. I don't remember which one that was, but
15 let me go back to Proposal 9. What page is that on.
16
17
          Yeah, it was Proposal 25 that we want this to be
18 really similar to, the one that dealt with Dan O'Connor.
19 Instead of adding a name on there, we said that all 1344
20 permittees should be recognized.
21
22
          For 9 and 11 I'd like to change the wording to "and
23 members of Wrangell-St. Elias, resident zone communities or
24 individuals or families with Wrangell-St. Elias 1344
25 permits." And that would be my motion.
26
27
                  MR. GOOD: I second.
28
29
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any discussion?
30
31
                  MR. FLEENER: And I just want to point out
32 that the Eastern Interior, Western Interior, Southcentral
33 Regional Councils support C&T for 1344 permit holders in this
34 area. So does the SRC. And I spoke with the author of this
35 proposal and he was agreeable to language similar to this
36 last night.
37
                  MR. GOOD:
                             Ouestion.
38
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay, question has been
39
40 called. All in favor of the Proposal 9 and 11 as modified,
41 please signify by saying aye.
42
43
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
44
45
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Opposed same sign.
46
47
           (No opposing responses)
48
49
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Now which proposal we on?
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00151 MR. GOOD: Vince will tell us. 1 2 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, I think there 3 4 needs to be a revisit -- oh, I'm sorry. 5 6 MR. CALLAWAY: Just as a point of 7 information, a number of the people we interviewed are not 8 1344 permit holders, they're members of resident zoned 9 communities, so I'm not sure what the impact of your wording 10 is going to do if it eliminates resident -- I guess if your 11 intent is for 1344, I'd say 1344 or resident zoned. 12 MR. FLEENER: In the motion it says "and 13 14 members of Wrangell-St. Elias resident zoned communities or 15 individuals or families with Wrangell-St. Elias." That was 16 my motion. 17 18 MR. CALLAWAY: Sorry. 19 20 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Mr. Chair, I think since 21 we're revisiting proposals, I think there some discussion on, 22 what was it, Proposal 60, that we need to address. 23 again, we're not redigging into this, Pete just wants to 24 bring up something, if you desire to revisit the issue, so be 25 it, if not, then we move on. Proposal 60. 26 27 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Proposal 60, which 28 you took action on yesterday, it was submitted by the Eastern 29 Interior Council and it requested an alignment of the Federal 30 season with the State for the caribou season in Unit 25(C). 31 If this proposal is adopted by the Federal Board, and at this 32 point I don't have any reason to think that it won't be, it 33 seems like everyone is in agreement that it should be in 34 alignment, then the season will be aligned. 35 36 Understand that the population of that herd is 37 somewhere around 1,500 animals total and the State annual 38 harvest quota is 30 bulls. As an informational item I'm

somewhere around 1,500 animals total and the State annual 38 harvest quota is 30 bulls. As an informational item I'm 39 bringing to you a concern from the BLM biologist who couldn't 40 be here today, I believe his name is Jim Furgus. His concern 41 is this, that in the event -- during the winter season, which 42 after the alignment will be February 1st through March 31st, 43 if the herd would congregate along the Steese Highway 44 corridor there may be a run on hunters that would go up from 45 Fairbanks and take a few of those caribou. The State would 46 probably be forced to close the season through emergency 47 order.

His concern is at that point the Federal season would to remain open and we'd go through the exercise like we did with

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00152
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the Fortymile Herd, we'd have to go through a Federal Special
2 Action to close that season, which, as you know, we saw this
3 last summer, can take a week or better to occur. He
4 suggesting, as an informational item, that you may want to
5 think about writing into Federal regulations that the Federal
6 season will close when the total of 30 bulls have been
7 harvested between both the Federal and the State seasons to
8 avoid the potential problems that we saw with the Fortymile
9 Caribou Herd.
10
11
          So I'm offering this as an informational item.
12 options are either let it stand as is, just you support that
13 the Federal Board should just align the seasons and let it go
14 at that. Or you can vote to revisit this and then discuss
15 how to amend it.
16
17
                  MR. FLEENER: Well, I think it's definitely
18 worth bringing back on the table. What, should I make a
19 motion to say that we want to amend Proposal 60? How would I
20 bring it back on the table without actually making -- yes.
21
22
                  MR. DeMATTEO: Just one more bit of
23 information, is that understand that the State would close
24 the season and then the Federal season would remain open
25 until a Special Action went through. During that period it
26 would just remain open to Federally qualified users.
27
28
                  UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We need to vote to
29 reconsider.
30
31
                  MR. FLEENER: Yeah, I'll make a motion to
32 reconsider Proposal 60.
33
34
                  MR. GOOD: I'll second it. Mr. Chairman.
35
36
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Nat.
37
38
                   MR. GOOD: We had another proposal where we
39 established the bag limits and we said 55 and -- do you
40 recall and....
41
42
                  MR. DeMATTEO: That was Proposal 55, that was
43 for the Fortymile Caribou Herd. We readjusted the allocation
44 of the first 100 for the fall season to distribute it between
45 Unit 25(C) and 20(E).
46
47
                  MR. GOOD: Well, I guess my question has to
48 do with that. That also had Steese Highway in it, too.
49
50
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MR. DeMATTEO: Correct, because 25(C) is

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00153
  divided between north and south.
2
                  MR. GOOD: Right.
3
4
                  MR. DeMATTEO: Right. This particular bit of
5
6 land is the north section -- the north and west of the Steese
7
  Highway, the White Mountains.
8
                  MR. GOOD: Okay. So where we are -- we are
9
10 treating it as one side of the highway and another side of
11 the highway.
12
                  MR. DeMATTEO: Just the one side, the north
13
14 side. North and west of the Steese Highway.
15
                  MR. GOOD: So the caribou aren't allowed to
16
17 cross, right?
18
19
                  MR. DeMATTEO: No, they are not, not without
20 a permit.
21
           (Laughter)
22
23
24
                  MR. GOOD: I just wanted to get that
25 straight, it was getting a little confusing here.
26
27
                  MR. FLEENER: I call for the question to
28 reconsider the proposal. We have to vote on whether or not
29 we want to reconsider.
30
31
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. All those in favor
32 of reconsidering Proposal 60 signify by saying aye.
33
34
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
35
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Opposed same sign.
36
37
          (No opposing responses)
38
39
40
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Proposal 60 is back on the
41 floor.
42
43
                  MR. FLEENER: Is there any comments by State
44 or....
45
                  MS. T. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, Terry Haynes,
46
47 Department of Fish and Game. We're a little bit confused
48 about what Pete has -- the information Pete has conveyed, so
49 maybe that can be discussed again as part of your
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50 deliberations.

00154 CHAIRMAN MILLER: He's saying the Feds are 1 2 slow in closing down the hunt, so there's a possibility of 3 more caribou actually being taken than the 30 allowable. (Indiscernible - away from microphone) 5 6 MS. T. HAYNES: Yeah, I think we just may 7 have missed some of the explanation that Pete was giving and if he could repeat some of what you said. David James may 9 have some additional comments. 10 11 MS. HILDEBRAND: That's a C&T proposal, 60 is 12 a C&T proposal. 13 14 MR. FLEENER: No, it just the dates. 15 MR. DeMATTEO: I'm on Page 83 of Section Q of 16 17 the book. 18 19 MR. SCHULTZ: Look at Page 81 and read the 20 proposal. It says "establish customary and traditional use 21 determinations." 22 (Indiscernible - multiple voices at same time) 23 24 25 MR. DeMATTEO: The proposed regulation, the 26 next block down. If you look on the far right there's a 27 highlighted section that says "February 1 through March 28 31st". I'm referring to the action the Council took 29 yesterday to support that. 30 MR. MATHEWS: The confusion is that there is 31 32 an error in the executive summary and that's where people are 33 focusing on the general description. This is not a C&T 34 proposal, someone inadvertently put that in there. 35 executive summary is wrong on Page 81, the actual proposal is 36 on Page 82, which is what Pete is addressing. Sorry for the 37 error. 38 MR. P. TITUS: So what they're asking for is 39 40 to have 30 moose [sic] harvested for both State and Feds. 41 They don't get 30 each is what I'm saying. 42 43 MR. DeMATTEO: Correct. 44 45 MR. P. TITUS: So what's the problem?

45 MR. P. TITUS: So what's the problem? Just 46 pass it and continue the meeting. We don't need to hear all 47 this stuff, we heard it yesterday.

48

MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair, do you guys -- would the State see any problem with us making this amendment to

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00155
  the proposal where we say the Federal season would
  automatically close the harvest at 30 caribou?
3
4
                  MR. DAVID JAMES: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm
5 David James with Fish and Game. I readily admit that if I
6 had been able to stay here last night after 4:00 I probably
7 would understand better what the Council is dealing with
8 here, but I had a previous commitment.
9
          My immediate reaction is, if I understand this
10
11 correctly, we're talking about having a winter Federal
12 registration permit system in place simultaneous with the
13 State registration permit for the same group of caribou in
14 the same area; is that correct?
15
                  MR. DeMATTEO: The Eastern Interior Council
16
17 submitted a proposal to the Federal Board to align the
18 Federal winter season with the State because the Federal
19 winter season was shorter. So if it was adopted it would be
20 in line with the State, February 1 through March 31st.
21
22
                  MR. DAVID JAMES: And the Federal permit
23 system has been in place all this time?
24
25
                  MR. DeMATTEO: Yes. Correct.
26
27
                  MR. DAVID JAMES: And the BLM office, I
28 assume it would be, has coordinated with the area biologist
29 in Fairbanks to monitor that quota?
30
31
           (No audible response)
32
33
                  MR. DAVID JAMES: Okay, that answers my
34 concern.
35
                  MR. DeMATTEO: For clarification for the
36
37 State. What I'm doing here is offering an informational item
38 to the Council that a BLM biologist has a concern that the
39 Federal season would remain open in the event the State
40 passes an emergency order to shut the State season when the
41 caribou congregated along the Steese Highway. Currently
42 under the Fed side sometimes it takes, maybe, a week to get a
43 Special Action through to close it. The BLM biologist just
44 wanted me to convey to the Council that that concern is there
45 and that they have the option, maybe, to proposal language in
46 the regulation that would give the BLM administrative
47 authority to shut the season down without going to the
48 Federal Board to ask for Special Action in the event that the
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49 herd congregated along the highway. 50

00156 MR. DAVID JAMES: I do wonder why there's a 1 2 Federal permit system in place, unless the purpose is to 3 restrict non-Federally qualified users in that area. Maybe that can be explained. 5 6 MS. GRONQUIST: And maybe Pete has that 7 history, I'm just not sure. But a few years ago this Council 8 made a proposal to put a Federal permit in place there in the 9 winter, mostly to gather information, to see what the 10 subsistence use was in that area. And I don't recall -- I do 11 think it came -- actually, I think it came from the Council 12 as a proposal. Do you remember, Vince? 13 14 MR. MATHEWS: No, I don't, but I have all the 15 minute here, I'd have to go through and see, but..... 16 17 MR. DeMATTEO: If I may add, the bases was 18 because that herd butts up against the Fortymile range and 19 the White Mountain Herd is only about 1,500 animals and 20 there's concern for that herd, although it supposedly 21 somewhat stable and may be increasing in slowly. So there 22 was an effort to try to monitor the harvest of that herd. 23 24 MR. FLEENER: So would the State have any 25 problem with us adopting this amendment to this proposal? 26 27 MR. DAVID JAMES: No. 28 29 MR. FLEENER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 30 31 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Thank you. 32 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, understand that 33 34 closure of the Federal season would just affect the Federal 35 rural residents -- Federally qualified rural users. And that 36 closure would be in the best interest of conservation efforts 37 to consider the herd as the annual quota has been set at 30 38 bulls. And it would give the BLM the administrative 39 authority to slam on the brakes, as we saw yesterday with the 40 Fortymile situation. 41 42 MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman. 43 44 MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make 45 a motion that we adopt language into Proposal 60 that says 46 that when the combined State and Federal harvest reaches 30 47 that the season be closed.

48

MR. GOOD: Second.

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00157
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay, will that take care
1
2 of it?
3
4
                  MR. DeMATTEO: I think I might defer to Vince
5 or maybe other staff. With that, could we write into
6 regulation the words we need to make that happen?
7
8
                  MS. DETWILER: I'm Sue Detwiler with Fish and
9 Wildlife Service Subsistence Office in Anchorage. And I
10 think the language that Craig proposed would be sufficient to
11 accomplish what you're trying to accomplish, which is to make
12 sure that the season is closed in a timely fashion when the
13 combined Federal/State quota has been reached.
14
15
                  MR. FLEENER: So instead of us waiting for an
16 emergency order, once 30 has been reach -- basically, we'll
17 probably just align with the State because they're monitoring
18 the numbers so well. If they find out it's closed, they'll
19 give the Federal folks a call, probably, and say, "hey, we
20 reached 30" or they'll produce their emergency order saying
21 that the harvest is shut down and then ours will
22 automatically close as well, so it'll go smoothly with what
23 we wanted to do, which is to align the proposals -- align the
24 season, excuse me.
25
                  CHAIRMAN MILLER: Will that work with the
26
27 State?
28
29
          (No audible response)
30
31
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. Vince.
32
33
                  MR. MATHEWS: Not to muddy it up, but in the
34 proposal you did yesterday you said, according to the
35 Management Plan instead of a number. This herd moving in
36 population then we wouldn't have to visit this in two years
37 or something. Is there a plan? And yesterday you used the
38 plan as the -- or allow harvestable surplus. You used some
39 terminology like that. I don't know if that's necessary now
40 or not, but.....
41
42
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: You just muddied it all up.
43
44
                  MR. DeMATTEO:
                                  I think the plan you're citing
45 is the Fortymile Plan, this is the White Mountain Herd.
46
47
                  MR. FLEENER:
                                There's no plan?
48
49
                  MR. DeMATTEO: There's no plan that I know
50 of. And the estimated population is about 1,500 animals and
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00158
  from what I've been told it's stable to slightly increased.
2
                  MR. MATHEWS: Okay, sorry. I thought there
3
4
  was a plan.
5
6
                  MR. FLEENER: Question.
7
8
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Nat.
9
10
                  MR. GOOD: Yeah, I had a question first. We
11 are voting on Proposal 60, as amended, correct?
12
13
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yeah, correct.
14
15
                  MR. GOOD: Okay.
16
17
                  MR. FLEENER: Question.
18
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. All those in favor
19
20 of Proposal 60, as amended, please signify by saying aye.
21
22
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
23
24
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Opposed same sign.
25
          (No opposing responses)
26
27
28
                  MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, that brings us up
29 back on to the schedule and I think the next proposal is 5
30 and 6, they're combined. These are -- I don't know how
31 George is going to do this, but these are the Healy Lake
32 proposals and they start on Page 2, I believe, or so, under
33 Tab S, as in Stevens Village.
34
35
                   MR. SHERROD: If we could flip that page back
36 to Page 1 for a second. Proposal 5 and 6 basically deal with
37 caribou in Unit 11. The Number 6, if you look over there in
38 the right-hand column with the wording, the section that says
39 to exclude Chickaloon, that was withdrawn by the proponent of
40 the proposal, so we can scratch that. And the same is true
41 under Proposals 13 and 14, so that these proposals are
42 basically identical.
43
44
           If you go all the way down to Proposal 23/24, 23,
45 basically deals only with Healy Village. And if the Chair
46 would approve and the Council and other members wouldn't
47 disagree, I would like to deal with 5 and 6, 8, 10, 13, 14
48 and 23 simultaneously. So although they deal with different
49 species, they deal with the same unit and the same user
50 group.
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CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yeah, that'll work for us.

1 2 3

5

7

MR. SHERROD: Okay. Most of you are familiar 4 with the Healy Lake proposals, we visited Healy Lake now, I think, for either the fourth or the fifth time. A couple of 6 nights ago several of you were out at Healy Lake. The -- I suppose the critical question in all of these proposals is 8 the nature use of this area by Healy Lake.

9

10 Evidence indicates a sporadic level of use over the 11 historical period. And although sporadic it is somewhat 12 consistent and it is patterned in that the use is associated 13 with residents of Healy Lake visiting relatives in the Copper 14 River area and expressing a desire to be able to hunt with 15 them when they are down there. I think the question that 16 this body has to decide and put forward is this type of use, 17 which is, I suppose, has a greater social dimension and 18 importance than it does an economic dimension. Is this the 19 type of use that would be considered a subsistence use and 20 the type of use that Title VIII is proposing to protect.

21

22 And the other two things that must be considered, in 23 Proposal 10 the original proposal was for goat north of the 24 Sanford River. Currently there are no goats north of the 25 Sanford River, although there is some indication that there 26 may have been, historically, goats in that area. The staff 27 has modified that proposal to read, simply, Unit 11. 28 to grant C&T for an area where there are no resources doesn't 29 make a lot of sense and testimony indicated that, in fact, in 30 the past residents of Healy Lake have traveled south of the 31 Sanford River and hunted goats or other resources with 32 relatives further south.

33 34

The staff recommendation is to support all of these 35 proposals, and in other words, grant Healy Lake C&T for use 36 of that area based on the desire to continue to interact and 37 harvest resources with their relatives and friends in the 38 Copper River Basin.

39 40

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Vince.

41

42 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, this will just 43 take a second, but it makes a record clean for you by the 44 fact that you need to know that comments that were submitted 45 on all of these proposals, so I'll try to be as brief as I 46 can. The Delta Junction Advisory Committee for Proposal 5 47 supports the Healy Lake amendment. Proposal 6 appears to be 48 excluding rural Federal subsistence users from hunting. 49 oppose excluding Healy Lake, Dot Lake and Chickaloon. 50 Obviously Chickaloon has been discussed here.

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Proposal 8, they support the proposal.
1
2
           9 they support adding -- oh, sorry, we're not on 9.
3
4
5
           10, we do not see why Unit 11 should be divided into
6
  to areas, we object to making things more complicated,
7
  especially for hunters and enforcement. We support adding
8 Healy Lake.
9
           Proposal 13 they support.
10
11
12
           And I don't know if there's a representative from
13 Upper Tanana here, I have all their comments, too. Proposal
14 13 apparently they didn't comment on.
15
16
           This is Delta Junction, Proposal 14 is an
17 exclusionary proposal, the Committee opposes it.
18
19
           Proposal 23, that's the last one, right? Correct?
20
21
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yes.
22
                   MR. MATHEWS: 23, they support 23. So now I
23
24 suppose the cleanest in the record would be that you have
25 comments of all the others in your book.
                                             I can either read
26 them or you can acknowledge that you have them in front of
27 you in your book. And we obviously have comments submitted
28 by the State of Alaska, and I'll assume they will explain
29 their comments for these series of proposals.
30
31
                   MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair, I make a motion that
32 we adopt Proposals 5, 6, 8, 10, 13, 14 and 23.
33
34
                   MR. GOOD: Second.
35
36
                   MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair, as far as what Vince
37 was saying, I'd like to ask for comments on 5 and 13 and 14,
38 were those -- were they not happy because the exclusion of
39 Chickaloon and would they now be happy that we've removed the
40 exclusion of Chickaloon?
41
42
                   MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chair, we have some people
43 from the Advisory Committee here, it would probably best for
44 them -- I did see a head shake, but I don't know if that was
45 for coffee or something else, but I think if they want to
46 come up to the mike and explain that then the record would be
47 clear on the Delta Junction position on these proposals.
48
49
                   MR. FENTON: I'm Larry Fenton, Chairman of
50 the Delta Advisory Committee. We didn't want to exclusion of
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00161
  any of the areas -- or the people in the areas because we
  didn't believe it was right.
3
4
                   MR. FLEENER: So it was the exclusion of
5 Chickaloon that you guys were unhappy with?
6
7
                              And the other ones where the
                   MR. FENTON:
8 exclusion of Dot Lake was not included -- they weren't
  included.
9
10
11
                   MR. FLEENER: Okay. So some of these
12 proposals do not include Dot Lake, but there's none that
13 specifically excludes them, right?
14
15
                   MR. FENTON: Not anymore. Not anymore, no.
16
17
                   MR. FLEENER: Okay. So with these exclusions
18 removed then you're.....
19
20
                   MR. FENTON: We're happy, yeah.
21
22
                   MR. FLEENER: Okay. Thank you.
23
24
                  MR. FENTON: Okay.
25
26
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: We want the short version.
27
                   MS. T. HAYNES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I
28
29 will make it very short. The Department of Fish and Game
30 continues to have some problems with these C&T proposals.
31 There's a very clear process laid out in the Federal
32 regulations for how customary and traditional determinations
33 are to be made. We do not dispute the fact that people from
34 Healy Lake go other places to harvest resources with
35 relatives, that's a common practice throughout Alaska. And I
36 think, as Mr. Sherrod mentioned, one of the questions is,
37 does this -- you know, you're kind of shifting from the eight
38 factor process for making C&T determinations to looking at a
39 more social dimension and does that provide the necessary
40 supporting evidence to determine that there are these
41 customary and traditional uses.
42
           We would like to see more specific data from Healy
43
44 Lake. For all the times that these proposals have been
45 before you and under consideration there hasn't been much
46 evidence prepared about Healy Lake's subsistence use patterns
47 and so that makes it difficult not only for the analysis to
48 provide the kinds of information that you need, but it also,
49 in our judgment, doesn't allow the Council to evaluate the
50 C&T analyses on the basis of the eight factor process that's
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00162
  in the regulations.
2
           So we would feel more comfortable if there was more
3
  specific information about Healy Lake provided in the
  analysis so that we could evaluate the eight factors and
5
6
  then, you know, assess their use patterns from there.
7
                               Mr. Chair, I wonder if we could
8
                   MR. FLEENER:
  hear from Mr. Sherrod a little bit. He's said that he's been
10 in that community a number of times working with the people
11 and maybe we can get a little bit of feedback on the results
12 of his meeting with those people.
13
14
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: George Sherrod then Connie
15 Friend from Tanana, she's been working on the from the start
16 of Healy Lake, she should have documentation now to.....
17
                                 I think for the sake of
18
                   MR. FLEENER:
19 argument and to make it -- if we are to pass these, to make
20 it easier at the Federal Board meeting to pass, it would be
21 wise for us to look through these and make sure we have
22 enough background.
23
24
                   MR. SHERROD: If I can add, while Connie is
25 passing that out. We wrote this analysis a little bit
26 differently, I co-wrote it with the anthropologist from
27 Southeast and if you notice in the beginning section, we
28 relied fairly heavily on testimony that has come before this
29 body and the Federal Subsistence Board as contributing to
30 that body of evidence, an attempt integrate local traditional
31 knowledge which as been a desire of not only this Council but
32 other Councils. So I would say that while we lack any
33 detailed harvest studies I do think that we have justified
34 our actions, to some degree or if not totally, based on the
35 testimony of residents of those communities.
36
37
                   MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair.
                                             And that testimony
38 is included in this as you pointed out?
39
40
                   MR. SHERROD: It's in -- yes, it's in the
41 beginning, I think from Page 3 up though the section dealing
42 with the cultural dimensions, basically, at Healy Lake.
43 was only done once and referenced in the later sections.
44
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER:
                                     Just out of curiosity,
46 Vince, was the State notified of our trip to Healy Lake
47 Friday?
```

48
49
MR. MATHEWS: I've been bouncing around here.
50 If the question is was the State notified of the meeting --

dialogue meeting, in Healy Lake, yes, they were. It was a late notice, I'll acknowledge that very quickly, but the logistics and safety concerns had to be brought over, but they were advised of that.

5 6

CHAIRMAN MILLER: I guess the point I'm

7 getting at, Terry, here is, you know, we went over and

8 listened to testimony in Healy Lake and as this Council has

9 always had problems with that eight point criteria, we think

10 that -- you know, we never really -- it doesn't really do

11 what it's supposed to do as far as we're concerned. So, you

12 know, we like to go out and listen to the people and hear

13 what they have to say about things instead of just relying on

14 the criteria like was said. I know that's what we're

15 supposed to do, but it's something -- I guess, maybe, I was

16 wondering were you guys planning on sending anybody out there

17 or was that....

18

MS. T. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, we apologize
for not being able to attend that meeting. I had a
commitment, I was in Healy attending another meeting on
Thursday and didn't get back in time to come out for that
meeting. I notified Vince ahead of time. I mentioned it to
Craig Fleener and indicated that if questions or comments
came up at that meeting it should be directed to the
Department and we'd be happy to try to address those this
weekend.

28

An understanding that you did obtain some information 30 at that meeting that directly applies to the topics discussed 31 here today. I didn't know if someone might be planning to 32 summarize what was discussed there, so that your record here 33 would reflect additional information that doesn't appear in 34 these analyses. That would certainly be helpful.

35 36

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Connie.

37

MS. FRIEND: Mr. Chairman, on that note, I 39 also talked with Tom Boyd yesterday and he assured me that 40 that testimony would be recorded. And so, you know, before 41 your next meeting you should have copies of that testimony. 42 But I'm prepared today to summarize, at least part of it.

43

My name is Connie Friend and I'm here at the request 45 of Healy Lake.

46

47 COURT REPORTER: Need to have the microphone 48 facing you directly. Thank you.

49 50

MS. FRIEND: Uh-huh. First of all the people

of Healy Lake would like to thank the Council and the various staff people for all of your support though these processes, they're kind of new to it and there are things that they would like you to know about themselves. They're not a new village, as you'll see in the paper that I gave you, they've been around for at least 11,000 years. Part of the lack of documentation, the lack of the kinds of information that the State and you may be looking for is due, in fact, to conditions beyond their control, to famine, to epidemics, such as small pox, tuberculosis, influenza that actually wiped out their village from time to time. And they would regroup and rebuild and return. And the people there today are the direct descendants of these ancient peoples who have peopled this land for at least 11,000 years.

15 16

I'm kind of lost here.

17

The paper that I gave you, I tried to show, first of all, that their being here into antiquity. Secondly, their relationships and contacts and ties to the Upper Tanana and to the Ahtna regions. And those are many and they're longstanding and they're in the process of being documented. We're working -- the Park Service staff and myself, are working on genealogies and we're talking to a lot of people who are still available, but there are many, many, many people who are not here any longer who could have supplied a lot of that information that you're seeking.

28

Healy Lake is a very small band of people, even today. The houses that are occupied are under 10. The village is still very nomadic, very mobile. The population varies from 20 to 60 people at any given time. And the people are in direct relationship to the land and directly dependent upon subsistence. Their lifestyle is very traditional.

36 37

When I was over there for one of my visits doing some research study, I had dinner with one of the elders and we had moose head soup, we had chusanat (ph), which is moose to stomach soup, we had smoked heart meat. That was our dinner, and we had macaroni and cheese, that was our dinner, that was our food. And that's very typical, that's not the exception.

43

From the testimony at the Lake when were over two 45 nights ago, it was -- for some people who have paying jobs 46 and have an income, they're dependence upon subsistence is 47 maybe 50 percent, but for others it's 100 percent, and that's 48 probably more than less. I'm almost certain that that would 49 be more than less of the population. So they're directly 50 dependent.

And so I kind of take issue with what George 1 2 mentioned earlier that when Healy Lake people travel to their 3 relatives it's recreational as opposed to economical. Let me 4 tell you for these people, for many of use in the Bush, this 5 is what we're saying is the difference between the urban 6 lifestyle and the rural lifestyle. When they travel, even if 7 it's for recreation, there is an economic consideration. 8 People from Healy Lake would have been here to testify for 9 themselves today, except that there was not transportation. 10 They wanted to come, they were prepared to come. Economics 11 is always a consideration and the food exchange with their 12 Ahtna neighbors or they share is critical to their survival. 13 And as it was brought out in the meeting in Healy Lake, these 14 people are surviving people. They were born and bred to 15 survive. They have a very ancient connection to the land, to 16 the animals, to the subsistence lifestyle.

17

And what they're asking is to be allowed to hunt with their friends and neighbors in the Upper Tanana and in the Ahtna regions, which is something that they have always done. And when we were taking testimony in Healy Lake it was not unusual for it to be mentioned that people in the old days, we're talking about people who's grandparents hunted and traveled and shared among all of the Native peoples of the region.

26

Another thing for them to travel hundred of miles,
they said -- Pat mentioned that his grandpa's knock on the
door of Walter Northway in Northway. That when his grandpa
would walk over the trails and come visiting, just by his
knock they would know this was his grandpa coming, because,
you know, they did this, this was common. His grandpa also
traveled from Healy Lake to Circle, just to find out when the
caribou would be crossing and to make plans for the hunt.
Who would rope, who would do the cutting, you know, they
planned it all out together, it wasn't -- they had communal
-- Healy Lake helped to build the communal fences on the
Fortymile River, in that area.

39

They cooperated, they hunted together, it was part of their lifestyle. It is part of their lifestyle today, and that's the basis of their request. I'm probably leaving out a lot of information from that meeting, you will be getting those notes. If you like I could kind of briefly go over my notes, I did take pretty extensive notes at the meeting in Healy Lake. But if this is enough to help you.

47 48

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. Vince.

49 50

MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, that meeting was

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00166
  also tape recorded and we have it on tape. And the record
  should reflect that Pat Saylor, and others can tell me, that
3 I think at least two meetings testified before this Council
  on Healy Lake's concerns and their traditional uses.
5
6
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Can we get a copy of that
7
  transcript sent to Terry?
8
9
                  MR. MATHEWS: What?
10
11
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Can we get a copy of that
12 transcript sent to Terry?
13
14
                  MR. MATHEWS: Well, it's in tape form right
15 now, we're.....
16
17
                  CHAIRMAN MILLER: Well, I know, but.....
18
19
                  MR. MATHEWS: Somehow we'll -- we'll get it
20 transcribed?
21
                  MR. SHERROD: Yes. And if I could say
22
23 something else, Mr, Chair. I appreciate Connie highlighting
24 the fact that I may have indicated the nature of the use was
25 recreational. That was not my intent, my intent was to
26 highlight the fact that the consideration here is a little
27 bit different in light of the eight factors. And I know you
28 guys have trouble with those. And what I was trying to point
29 out is that several of the eight factors deal on the
30 importance of economic efficiency. And what I was trying to
31 bring forward here was the staff conclusion to provide a
32 positive C&T determination was based more on the cultural
33 dimension that this is important for social solidarity and
34 the viability of not just the community of Healy Lake, but
35 its neighboring communities. It reenforces this web of
36 networks that exists between those. And that's an aspect
37 that difficult to highlight under the existing eight factors.
38
          And in talking with other staff and with I'll put Nat
39
40 on the spot. Nat, I think there is a consensus that this
41 type of behavior is basically a behavior of rural Alaska
42 Natives and not necessarily something that someone -- that
43 this body should look differently at a request for someone
44 from Delta Junction wanting to go to Barrow to hunt with
45 somebody he met on an airplane and is calling a friend.
46 this is trying to recognize a cultural practice that we
47 believe is an intricate and traditional cultural practice of
48 Alaska Natives to travel to other villages, visit with
49 relatives and to not be an economic burden at that time.
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50 That it's through these communal acts of hunting, preparing

00167 and consuming these resources that Native culture is basically reinforced. That knowledge is transmitted, which 3 is one of the eight factors. That sharing takes place, which is one of the eight factors. 5 6 It is economically feasible to go to a neighbor's 7 community, to a village and use their technology to hunt, 8 where it may not be to drag your own boat or snowmachine or 9 something hundreds of miles to participate. That it's done 10 within the local area, which is part of the eight factors. 11 So in many ways, when we think about it, the rationale behind 12 allowing this type of activity to occur, I think, is in the 13 spirit of the eight factors, even though it's very hard to 14 categorize or quantify each of the eight factors. 15 And I appreciate Connie pointing out that I may have 16 17 given the wrong opinion. Thank you. 18 19 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Thank you, George. 20 21 MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman. 22 23 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Nat. 24 25 MR. GOOD: One thing I'd like to point out 26 here, too, is Healy Lake people when they have been gone from 27 their village have been largely residents of the other

MR. GOOD: One thing I'd like to point out
here, too, is Healy Lake people when they have been gone from
their village have been largely residents of the other
communities as well, and they, themselves, are very closely
related to the people in the other communities, and when they
have been in those communities were eligible at that time.
So you're talking mixed eligibility here, we just want to
give it to them as a community.

33 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Connie.

MS. FRIEND: Mr. Chairman, there's one 37 technical point, I'm not sure, but I'm relatively sure that 38 when we wrote this proposal for Number 23, we included (B) 39 and (C) and I noticed -- it may have come across when Copper 40 River submitted their Proposal 22, which they later withdrew, 41 it was absent from that, but we do have definite proof of 42 Healy Lake people having hunted on the Nebesna Road and if 43 (C) were not included in this then Nebesna Road would likely 44 be omitted, or at least parts of it.

45
46 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Healy Lake is in 20(D),
47 ain't it, Nat?
48

MS. FRIEND: Yes.

50

49

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MR. GOOD: Yeah.
1
2
3
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Well, they're included.
4
5
                   MS. FRIEND: I have with me testimony from
6 Logan Rouk (ph) who did hunt repeatedly along the Nebesna
7 Road and I believe that, Mr. Chairman, you and Pat Saylor may
8 have also hunted there, so we do have proof that we hunted
9 there and we'd like to have that included, if possible, in
10 Proposal 23.
11
12
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: I think it's already
13 included.
14
15
                  MR. GOOD: Yeah, it is.
16
17
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yeah, I think it's
18 included.
19
20
                  MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, the confusion
21 here again is we just need to get our summaries better.
22 proposal in the book on Page 112 for 23 does reflect 13(B)
23 and 13(C). It's the summary -- that's the problem with
24 summaries -- difficulty, I should say, it doesn't show 13(B)
25 and (C) on the chart on Page 1 under Tab S, but it is in the
26 proposal.
27
                  MS. FRIEND: Okay, thank you.
28
29
30
                   MR. P. TITUS: Question.
31
32
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay, question has been
33 called. We just going to block them altogether?
34
35
                   MR. GOOD: Yeah, they're altogether.
36
37
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. All those in favor
38 of Proposal 5, 6, 8, 10, 13, 14 and 23, please signify by
39 saying aye.
40
41
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
42
43
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Opposed same sign.
44
45
          (No opposing responses)
46
47
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay, they pass. Go ahead,
48 Vince.
49
                  MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, then for the
50
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00169 record then that you passed supporting the staff recommendation for those proposals and it was based on the 3 dialogue meeting in Healy Lake and other previous dialogues 4 with representatives of Healy Lake and personal knowledge of their uses and data submitted at this meeting. Correct? 5 6 7 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Uh-huh (affirmative). 8 MR. MATHEWS: Okay, thank you. 9 10 MR. SHERROD: Mr. Chair, with regard to 11 12 Proposal 24, based on the action you just took you've already 13 added -- and 24 deals only with 13(B), we've already added 14 Healy Lake to that determination, so the other communities 15 requested in this proposal to be added would be -- to the 16 13(B) determination for moose would be Unit 12 along the 17 Nebesna Road, Unit 13 -- they're already there, excuse me. 18 Unit 20(D), except Fort Greely, and Unit 11. And Unit 11, my 19 understanding is, was erroneously added, if Mr. Good could 20 clarify that before I go on? 21 22 MR. GOOD: Yeah, in writing that what 23 happened was the original proposal for caribou was used for 24 it, which did have Unit 11 and 12 in it. And there was an 25 assumption made that that was the same for moose and so it 26 was submitted that way and when we found out that that was 27 not the case we submitted that and said we didn't want to 28 speak for 11 and 12, that that wasn't appropriate and, 29 therefore, we had to withdraw that. 30 31 MR. SHERROD: So we're only considering those 32 residents of Unit 12 along the Nebesna Road and Unit 20(D),

MR. SHERROD: So we're only considering those residents of Unit 12 along the Nebesna Road and Unit 20(D), secluding Fort Greely, to be added to the moose determination for Unit 13(B).

35

In going through the analysis, there was indication 37 to support, again, of course, the addition of Healy Lake and 38 to support adding the residents of Unit 12 and Unit 20(D) 39 excluding Fort Greely, to the C&T determination for 13(C). 40 You have the analysis in front of you, if you'd like I could 41 go into more detail. Or if you would prefer just to move 42 forward and ask questions, we can handle it that way, too.

43

MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman, I move that we 45 support Proposal 24 with modification adding the residents of 46 Unit 12 and 20(D), except Fort Greely, to those with a 47 positive C&T in Unit 13(B). I'm taking this from the 48 conclusions on Page 129.

49 50

MR. FLEENER: Second.

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00170
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. Discussion?
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2
                   MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, the only comment
3
4 that was received was from Delta Junction Advisory Committee.
5 Nat explained the error in the original proposal and in their
6 comments submitted they continue the proposal, they feel the
7 rationale is clear and support it.
8
           And Fish and Game may want to comment, they submitted
9
10 a written comment of no comment at that time.
11
                   MS. T. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, we have no
12
13 further comments right now, we may provide some at the
14 Southcentral meeting after we've had a chance to look at this
15 proposal in the context of other actions you've taken.
16
17
                   MR. GOOD: Question.
18
19
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. Question has been
20 called, all those in favor of Proposal 24 as amended.
21
22
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
23
24
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Opposed?
25
          (No opposing responses)
26
27
28
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Proposal 24 passes.
29
30
                   MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, I think, if I got
31 the road map right here that gets us -- we've completed the
32 Healy Lake proposals and then we're on to overlap proposals
33 with Southcentral. And if George -- I mean, if he agrees, I
34 think it's Proposal 4 now before us, dealing with a brown
35 bear season in Unit 11. If not, then they can give direction
36 as to where we go, but we've completed the Healy Lake ones.
37
38
                   MR. SHERROD: Mr. Chairman, can we take a
39 break for about five minutes, is that possible?
40
41
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yeah, let's take about five
42 minutes.
43
44
                   MR. SHERROD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
45
           (Off record - 9:49 a.m.)
46
47
48
           (On record - 10:09 a.m.)
49
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: I'd like to call the
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00171
  meeting back to order. Proposal 4.
2
3
                  MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, I think we're on
4 to overlap proposals. If people would turn to Tab S as in
  Stevens Village. Proposal 11 is on Page 133, it deals
5
6
  with....
7
8
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Proposal 4?
9
10
                  MR. MATHEWS: ....establishing a brown bear
11 season. Proposal 4, yeah. I'm sorry. It deals with
12 establishing a brown bear season in Unit 11. Oh, and I do
13 remember that there was -- Mr. Fleener wanted to make a
14 clarification on the action dealing with Proposal 5, 6 and et
15 cetera.
16
17
                  MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chairman, I guess there was
18 some confusion to my proposal and it was to adopt the staff
19 recommendation. And is that clear enough, Mr. Mathews?
20
                  MR. MATHEWS: Yes, and there was a staff
21
22 recommendation within the meeting book. There was several
23 people that approached me that was clear what the motion was,
24 so we need to make sure, and that's what's reflected in notes
25 and I think Sue has that also in her notes. So we have
26 multiple recordings that that was the motion, but now we have
27 it clarified on the record.
2.8
29
                  MR. FLEENER: And would that have changed
30 anyone else's vote, we need to find out.
31
32
                  MR. MATHEWS: No.
33
                  MR. FLEENER: I think everyone understood
34
35 that's how the motion was going.
36
37
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Pete.
38
                  MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Proposal 4 was
39
40 submitted by Frank Entsminger and the Upper Tanana/Fortymile
41 Fish and Game Advisory Committee. This proposal would open a
42 Federal subsistence brown bear season in Unit 11 for one bear
43 every regulatory year and the season would be from September
44 1 through May 21. Currently there is not Federal subsistence
45 season for brown bear in Unit 11.
46
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In 1997 a positive customary and traditional use 48 determination was made for brown bear prompting this request 49 to the Federal Subsistence Board. There's currently a State 50 season for brown bear in Unit 11, that's one bear every four

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00172
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regulatory years, September 1 through October 31 and the second season is April 25 through May 31.

3 4

There is no current population estimate for brown 5 bears in Unit 11, however, the Alaska Department of Fish and 6 Game considers the population is relatively abundant and well distributed throughout the unit. This is also the consensus of other biologists and outfitters and local residents.

8 9

7

10 MR. MATHEWS: Okay, Mr. Chairman, the 11 comments.....

12 13

MR. DeMATTEO: I'm not done yet.

14 15

MR. MATHEWS: Oh.

16

MR. DeMATTEO: The mean annual brown bear 17 18 harvest in Unit 11 from 1985 to 1995 is eight bears per year 19 with the management goal of less than 30 bears harvested per 20 year. In 1966 [sic] through 1997 season only two bears were 21 taken. And in 1997 and '98 only three bears were harvested.

22

The Federal subsistence harvest is not expected to 23 24 meet or exceed recent harvest levels under State regulations 25 since subsistence use of brown bear meat and hides is 26 limited. It is concluded that additional harvest resulting 27 from a Federal season will not negatively impact the brown 28 bear population for the unit.

29 30

The preliminary conclusion is to modify. 31 recommended that changing the proposed season dates to 32 coincide with the existing State hunting regulations, which 33 run from September 1 though October 31 and April 25 through 34 May 31. This permits harvest during the period when bears are 35 most active and available to hunters.

36

37 It is also recommended that the regulation -- that 38 the State regulation that any qualified subsistence users 39 must have a State locking tag, as is currently done for 40 Federal subsistence hunters in Unit 12. Also any brown bear 41 harvested under Federal season must be sealed within 30 days 42 of the kill by Alaska Department of Fish and Game personnel 43 in the same manner that bears harvested under State 44 regulation are presently sealed.

45

MR. MATHEWS: Sorry. Comments that were 46 47 received. Upper Tanana/Fortymile Advisory Committee support. 48 were also in favor of elimination tag fees since this is a 49 subsistence hunt. Delta Advisory Committee support Proposal 50 4 allowing brown bear hunting in Unit 11. And the State is

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00173
1 present to share their comments.
3
                  MS. T. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, we support this
4 proposal and the staff recommendation looks fine as well.
5
6
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. With the
7
  modification, you mean?
8
9
                   MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion
10 that we adopt Proposal 4 with the staff recommendation.
11
12
                   MR. GOOD: Second.
13
14
                   MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair, I'd like to ask the
15 State, is there tag and sealing requirements already in this
16 area?
17
                   MR. DAVID JAMES: Yes.
18
19
20
                  MR. FLEENER: There is? Was that a yes?
21
22
                  MR. DAVID JAMES: Mr. Chairman, yes.
23
24
                  MR. FLEENER: Thank you.
25
26
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Nat.
27
                   MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman, currently in Unit
28
29 13, which is immediately adjacent there, moose population is
30 very low in number, in fact, almost threatened I think you
31 might even say. What is the current status of that
32 population in Unit 11?
33
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: You mean the moose
34
35 population?
36
37
                   MR. GOOD: Right, the moose. I tend to put
38 -- you know, there's a relationship between the two here. Do
39 you have any idea, Chair? You wouldn't necessarily know
40 that.
41
42
                  MR. MITCHELL: Carl Mitchell, the wildlife
43 biologist for Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, which is most
44 of Unit 11. The moose populations are below normal there,
45 roughly 25 to 26 moose per square mile, higher than in some
46 parts of Interior Alaska, not as high as in Unit 11. They're
47 not threatened in any way, but they're not abundant either.
48
49
                  MR. GOOD: The reason I asked that, Mr.
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50 Chairman was currently there are other areas that are doing

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away with one bear every four years and going to one bear
  every year and eliminating the tag fee as well. Here in
3 20(D) that step had been taken, I think it's proposed also
4 for 13, isn't it now? There probably are proposals dealing
5 with that in 13, which is what made me curious about those.
6
7
                   MR. MITCHELL: There are some places in Unit
8 13 where it is one bear per year and there is not tagging
9
  requirement.
10
11
                   MR. GOOD: Thank you. But that's the way it
12 is in 11.
13
14
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any more discussion?
15
                   MR. GOOD: Question.
16
17
18
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay, question has been
19 called. All those in favor of Proposal 4.
20
21
                  MR. GOOD: Aye.
22
23
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Were there any amendments
24 to that or just as is?
25
                   MR. FLEENER: (Indiscernible - away from
26
27 microphone) staff recommendation that's in (indiscernible).
28
29
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Signify by saying aye.
30
31
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
32
33
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Opposed same sign.
34
35
           (No opposing responses)
36
37
                   MR. MATHEWS: Okay, Mr. Chairman, that brings
38 us up to Proposal 15, which is on Page 139, which deals with
39 elimination of requirements to keep sex attached to the
40 carcass for 11 and 13.
41
42
                  MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chairman, Proposal 15 was
43 submitted by the Copper River Native Association.
44 proposal would modify the general regulation pertaining to
45 the possession and transportation of wildlife, to eliminate
46 that portions of the external sex organs remain attached to
47 the carcass to provide evidence of sex for moose and sheep in
48 Unit 11 and 13.
49
           The current regulations governing evidence of sex and
50
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00175
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identity under possess and transport of wildlife read as follows: If the subsistence take of Dall sheep is restricted to a ram, no person may possess or transport or harvest a sheep unless both horns accompany the animal.

5 6

If the subsistence take of an ungulate, except sheep, is restricted to one sheep in the local area, no person may possess or transport the carcass of an animal taken in that area unless sufficient portions of external sex organs remain attached to indicated conclusively the sex of the animal.

11 12

The preliminary conclusion is to oppose and the justification is requiring that a portion of the external sex organs remain attach to the carcass to provide evidence of sex is a reasonable requirement that protects populations of ungulates. It does not spoil meat when the animals are properly field dressed and allows the option of a late bull moose hunt, after the bulls have shed their antlers.

19 20

Since the requirement also exists in State 21 regulation, removing it from Federal regulation would make 22 enforcement on adjacent lands, which fall under State 23 jurisdiction very difficult, to the detriment of the 24 populations that use Federal public lands.

25

MR. MATHEWS: Okay, Mr. Chairman, we do have 27 a few comments on this one. The Denali Subsistence Resource 28 Commission on Proposal 15 opposes this proposal and 29 recommends retaining existing regulations governing the 30 evidence of sex and the identity for the reasons stated in 31 the justification.

32

The Delta Advisory Committee, their position is as 34 long as antler remain attached sex is certainly established. 35 We support the logic of this proposal.

36

The Upper Tanana/Fortymile Committee supports this proposal and would like to include Unit 12.

39

What's the State's comments?

40 41

MS. T. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, the State does 43 not support this proposal, we see it as creating a lot of 44 difficult enforcement problems among other things.

45

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Thank you.

46 47

 $$\tt MR.\ FLEENER:\ Mr.\ Chair,\ I\ make}$ a motion that 49 we adopt the staff recommendation for Proposal 15.

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00176
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: You mean you oppose it
2
  then?
3
4
                   MR. FLEENER: Yeah.
5
6
                  MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman, actually in order to
7
  discuss this, we should have a motion on the floor in favor
8
  of it and then defeat it.
9
                   MR. FLEENER: Well, I just made a motion.....
10
11
                   MR. GOOD: But the staff recommendation was
12
13 to oppose. You made a motion to oppose it.
14
                   MR. FLEENER: We can still discuss it. No, I
15
16 quess we can't, can we?
17
                   MR. MATHEWS: Well, you can do it either way.
18
19 (Indiscernible - away from microphone) positive motion.
20
21
                   MR. FLEENER: Okay. I make a motion that we
22 adopt Proposal 15.
23
24
                   MR. P. TITUS: Second the motion.
25
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Discussion?
26
27
                  MR. FLEENER: Yeah, I think it's a reasonable
28
29 expectation. I do have a question. Is there a winter moose
30 hunt to where you would not be able to use the antlers as an
31 identifier?
32
           (Indiscernible - multiple voices)
33
34
35
                  MR. SHERROD: There's a Federal moose hunt,
36 September 20 is the.....
37
38
                   MR. FLEENER: I was just wondering because
39 someone made the argument, when Vince was reading, that
40
41
                   MR. SHERROD: Defined in our regulations is
42 one antlered bull.
43
44
                  MR. GOOD: And it is in September, both hunts
45 -- both units?
46
47
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Is there....
48
49
                  MS. T. HAYNES: I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman, did
50 you want the State seasons?
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00177
                  CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yeah, if there was a winter
1
2
 State season?
3
4
                  MS. T. HAYNES: In Unit 11 and 13?
5
6
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yeah, 11 and 13.
7
8
                  MS. T. HAYNES: Mr.Chairman, the State
  seasons appear to be the same as the Federal seasons in both
9
10 of those units.
11
12
                  CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. Terry, I got a
13 question here. This here just kind of came into effect,
14 what, the last 10 years or so, that we got to keep the sex
15 organs attached, because I remember before it wasn't like
16 that. At least Unit 20(D) it wasn't. And.....
17
18
                  MR. DAVID JAMES: Mr. Chair -- oh, excuse me.
19
20
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: No, go ahead.
21
22
                  MR. DAVID JAMES: I just wanted to reply,
23 it's actually been in place for, I'm fairly confident, longer
24 than that, but it has not been widely enforced in some areas,
25 in some places. And even to this day it's one of the most
26 common violations, I'm told by Fish and Wildlife.
27
28
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: I do it every year to tell
29 you the truth. I say I do it every year, because that how I
30 was taught to dress out a moose and that's how I do it. So I
31 was just wondering, you know, how long this thing has
32 actually been in effect?
33
34
                  MR. DAVID JAMES: It's been around for a long
35 time, I guess, is the short answer. And it's an enforcement
36 issue, you know, Fish and Wildlife Protection are the ones
37 that advocate that, and for obvious reasons. I mean it's a
38 real cut and dry kind of tool for enforcement purposes.
39
40
                  MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman. Antlers seem to be
41 a pretty cut and dry tool, too, you know.
42
                  MR. DAVID JAMES: I'm sure Fish and Wildlife,
43
44 if they were sitting here, they can give you lots of
45 examples. There would be no problem to do that illegally,
46 all you have to have is a bull moose head.
47
48
                  MR. GOOD: Or hind quarters.
49
50
                  MR. DAVID JAMES: Well, then you can fill in
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00178
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the blanks with whatever piece of moose you have in addition to that, you know. That's the argument that you would hear from them.

4

5 MR. P. TITUS: Mr. Chairman.

6

7

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yeah, go ahead.

8

MR. P. TITUS: It's against common sense to 10 kill cows for -- because they breed up and cows breed up and 11 people look for bulls when they hunt in the fall time. And -12 - but once you catch a moose it's dead, no matter what, and 13 no matter what sex it is, you got to take it home and eat it, 14 so kind of saying we should just -- I skin moose the same way 15 Chuck skins moose, that's the way we were taught and we try 16 to keep the meat as clean as possible. This here would 17 probably spoil the meat. If it got on the meat you can't eat 18 it. And it's a funny proposal. I'd rather just skin the 19 moose the way we were taught, I don't know why we need to go 20 by regulations. It's a new way to skin moose, I guess.

21 22

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. So....

2324

MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman.

25 26

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Nat.

27

MR. GOOD: The only enforcement problem I see 29 is that you would have two different types of enforcement, so 30 once you hit, say, the highway system then you'd have to be 31 able to show that your moose came from a Federal area and not 32 from a State area. That's where I see the problem with 33 enforcement coming in. I don't have any big problems, I can 34 see how you can mix and match parts of an animal, either way 35 you look at it, front end or rear end, but I guess it's not 36 -- you come into Unit 11, if you hit the highway system and 37 the State stops you then you got to be able to show it was a 38 Federal moose, I guess. Maybe they'll have Fs painted on 39 them or something, I don't know.

40

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yeah, I think that would be 42 the main problem, just the enforcement of it.

43

MR. L. TRITT: Mr. Chairman.

44 45

46 CHAIRMAN MILLER: You know, I support it, I 47 guess, in a round about way it's got to coincide with State.

48

MR. GOOD: We don't want any criminals here.

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00179
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: We're already criminals.
1
2 Go ahead Lincoln.
3
                  MR. L. TRITT: Yeah, where I come from we
5 don't leave anything -- any meat or anything behind and so
6 this would just -- to me this gives an idea that they're --
7 you can do that, you know. And so I -- it just gives all the
8 bad information is what it does. And I really don't think
9 this is necessary.
10
11
                  MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chairman.
12
13
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Craig.
14
15
                  MR. FLEENER: I think as a point of
16 clarification evidence of sex is attached to the hide not to
17 the -- it doesn't remain attached to the meat, so for anyone
18 that might be concerned about damage to the meat if the
19 evidence of sex is attached to the hide, it can be kept away
20 from the meat. And I think that for enforcement it is a good
21 tool to make sure that people are shooting bulls, you know,
22 if you got a lot of people hunting along the highway, that's
23 one quick way to identify. It's awful obvious.
24
25
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Is that how it is in the
26 regs?
27
28
                  MR. FLEENER: Huh?
29
30
                  CHAIRMAN MILLER: Is that how it is stated in
31 the regs, attached to the hide?
32
33
                  MR. P. TITUS: No, it just says attached.
34
35
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Southcentral didn't meet
36 yet, did they?
37
38
                  MR. MATHEWS: No.
39
40
                  CHAIRMAN MILLER: So we don't know what
41 their....
42
                  MR. MATHEWS: They meet the end of the month.
43
44
                  MR. DAVID JAMES: Mr. Chairman.
45
46
47
                  CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yes.
48
                  MR. DAVID JAMES: I'm not reading from the
49
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50 State codified regulations, I'm reading from the summary here

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00180
   in the reg book. It says -- the wording in here is that the
  -- you must keep enough of the sex organs naturally attached
  to part of a rear quarter to show sex of the animal.
4
5
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay.
6
7
                   MR. DAVID JAMES: Just to clarify what Mr.
8 Fleener was asking about.
9
10
                   MR. GOOD: It goes on to say, penis, scrotum,
11 other, tits, vaginal orifice.
12
           (Indiscernible - multiple voices)
13
14
15
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any discussion?
16
17
                   MR. GOOD: Question.
18
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Question has been called.
19
20
21
                   MR. P. TITUS: What's the action?
22
                   MR. GOOD: The motion is to adopt Proposal
23
24 15.
25
                  MR. MATHEWS: Was that with amendments or
26
27 straight?
28
29
                   MR. GOOD: Just adopt it.
30
31
                   MR. MATHEWS: Okay, good.
32
33
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: To adopt is to remove, huh,
34 and oppose accept.
35
36
                   MR. FLEENER: If you adopt it, it eliminates
37 the requirements to keep evidence of sex. If you vote
38 against it, it will remain to keep -- retain that
39 requirement.
40
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. All those in favor
41
42 of Proposal 15 signify by saying aye.
43
44
                   IN UNISON EXCEPT MR. FLEENER: Aye.
45
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Opposed same sign.
46
47
48
                   MR. FLEENER: Aye.
49
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CHAIRMAN MILLER: What do we got? Five [sic]

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00181
  for and one against.
2
3
                   MR. MATHEWS: Was the vote on that six for,
4
  one against?
5
6
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yeah, six for, one against.
7
8
                   MR. MATHEWS: Two absent.
9
10
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: So Proposal 15 passes.
11
12
                   MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, that brings us up
13 to Proposal 16, which deals with moose season in Unit 11.
14
15
                   MR. DeMATTEO:
                                 Mr. Chair, Proposal 16 was
16 submitted by the Copper River Native Association. It would
17 lengthen the existing moose season in Unit 11. Current
18 Federal subsistence regulations in Unit 11 allow a season of
19 August 25 through September 20 with a harvest limit of one
20 antlered bull. The general State season in that unit runs
21 from August 20 to September 20 with a harvest limit of one
22 bull with a spiked-fork or 50-inch or greater antlers or
23 three or more brow tines on at least one side, on one antler.
24
25
           Federal public lands in the affected area are those
26 of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve and a
27 very small portion of the Chugach National Forest in the
28 vicinity of Miles Glacier.
29
           Persons having customary and traditional use of moose
30
31 in that portion of Unit 11 north of the Sanford River are
32 residents of Unit 11, 12, 13(A, B, C and D) and residents of
33 Chickaloon and Dot Lake. Persons having customary and
34 traditional use of moose in the remainder of Unit 11 are
35 residents of Unit 11, 13 (A, B, C and D) and residents of
36 Chickaloon.
37
38
           The current moose density in Unit 11 is considered to
39 be stable, but low, with a unit-wide estimate of 0.5 moose
40 per square mile. The bull:cow ratios are high, reaching
41 almost 90 bulls:per 100 cows in some areas, but calf survival
42 though the fall season is low, with fall ratios often below
43 20 calves:per 100 cows.
44
           The reported annual harvest since 1993 have averaged
45
46 35 bulls with a range of 30 to 38.
47
           The preliminary conclusion is to support with a
48
49 modification on the basis that although the current moose
50 population in Unit 11 is low, the current low harvest rate
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00182
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and high bull:cow ratio would permit some additional harvest of bulls without detriment to the population. 3 adding additional days at the end of the season could increase the harvest significantly and also interfere with successful breeding. Bulls are very vulnerable during this 5 6 period due to the increased movement associated with the rut 7 and the increased visibility due to leaf fall. 8 9 It would also concentrate hunters on Federal public 10 lands in the unit since there would be no other local areas 11 opened to moose hunting. Harvesting bulls during this period 12 of harem formation may interfere with breeding, resulting in 13 a low calf production and reduced survivals due to a larger 14 number of late born calves during the following summer. 15 16 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, the Delta 17 Advisory Committee on Proposal 16, this would make the moose 18 season an entire month long. Moose populations cannot 19 support this kind of pressure. They opposed Proposal 16. 20 21 And the Alaska Department of Fish and Game has..... 22 MR. FLEENER: Who was that? 23 24 25 MR. MATHEWS: The Delta Junction Advisory 26 Committee opposed the proposal. 27 28 MS. T. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, the 29 Department's opposition to this proposal is based on the 30 addition of five days at the end of the season. What the 31 staff are recommending here is basically aligning the State 32 and Federal seasons and we would be much more supportive of 33 that. 34 35 CHAIRMAN MILLER: That was something like 36 August 20 to September 20 you're looking at? 37 38 MS. T. HAYNES: Yeah, that would be -- it 39 would be better not to have additional hunting time in one 40 area of that region of Alaska where you could attract a lot 41 of hunters to an area, and Unit 11 moose population cannot 42 withstand substantial additional harvest, so..... 43 44 CHAIRMAN MILLER: What's the State season 45 now? 46 47 MR. FLEENER: August 30 [sic] to September 48 20. 49

MS. T. HAYNES: It's August 20 to September

```
20.
3
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: So if we were to align it
  with the State season that would work better?
5
6
                  MS. T. HAYNES: Yes.
7
8
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay.
9
10
                   MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion
11 that we adopt Proposal 16 with staff recommendation.
12
                   MR. GOOD:
13
                              Second.
14
                   MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair.
15
16
17
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER:
                                     Yes
18
19
                   MR. FLEENER: Does the State know the moose
20 density in that area?
21
22
                   MR. DAVID JAMES: Mr. Chair, no, I have no
23 information on that, however, somebody else has.
24
25
                   MR. MITCHELL: Craig, yeah, again, unit-wide,
26 it's about a half a moose per square mile. It's not a high
27 density.
28
29
                  MR. FLEENER: And what's the size of the
30 area?
31
32
                   MR. MITCHELL: I'd have to look it up, but
33 it's somewhere around 11,000 square miles or something like
34 that. I don't know how much of that is actually moose
35 habitat.
             There are concentrations of hunting along the roads
36 and the concern is that since moose are particularly
37 vulnerable to hunting during the rut, and since there would
38 be no other open seasons that everybody who hadn't gotten a
39 moose today would suck into that unit.
40
           We would expect, based on the patterns of harvest,
41
42 that an extra five days at the end of the season could as
43 much as double or even more, increase the harvest. And while
44 it may not affect the population unit-wide, it would
45 certainly affect it locally where access is available. And
46 if you create pockets of low bull:cow ratios and delayed
47 breeding and everything else, it's not something that we're
48 trying to do.
49
50
                   MR. FLEENER: And do you happen to know the
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00184
   overall moose population?
2
3
                   MR. MITCHELL: No, not off the top of my
4
  head, I'd have to look it up.
5
6
                   MR. FLEENER: It's just somebody complaining
7
  about a half a moose per square mile and up in Yukon Flats we
  got one every 10 square miles, so.....
8
9
                   MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, I was just talking to
10
11 somebody the other day though and in the experimental forest
12 below Fairbanks, they got up to three moose per square mile,
13 so it depends on what you're used to, I guess.
14
15
                   MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman, my only comment
16 would be that aligning with the State seasons makes sense
17 and, number 2, not getting as close to the rut also makes
18 sense, so as the motion was made, it seems to be most
19 appropriate. It solves everybody's problem.
20
21
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any other discussion?
22
                   MR. FLEENER: Question.
23
24
25
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Question has been called.
26 All those in favor of Proposal 16 with the staff
27 recommendations, signify by saying aye.
28
29
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
30
31
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Opposed same sign.
32
33
          (No opposing responses)
34
35
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: What's our next one?
36
37
                   MR. MATHEWS: That brings us up to Proposal
38 17, which is coyote hunting in Unit 11 and 13.
39
40
                   MR. DeMATTEO:
                                 Mr. Chair, Proposal 17 was
41 submitted by Frank Entsminger and the Upper Tanana/Fortymile
42 Fish and Game Advisory Committee. This proposal would
43 increase the hunting harvest limits on coyotes on Units 11
44 and 12 from two coyotes to 10 coyotes.
45
46
           Currently the State regs for Unit 12 are no more than
47 two coyotes may be harvested prior to October 1st. Now,
48 yesterday you took action on Proposal 52, which is just that,
49 to align the harvest limit for coyotes with that with the
50 State, so remember for Unit 12 that would be no more than two
```

coyotes prior to October 1st. For Unit 11 that doesn't have an additional restriction, it would just up to 10 coyotes.

3 4

Current Federal subsistence regulations governing
coyote hunting in Unit 11 and 12 provide a season from
September 1 through April 30 with a harvest limit of two
coyotes in both units. Current State regulations in Unit 11
are identical to Federal regulations, however, in Unit 13 the
harvest limit is 10 coyotes, only two of which may be taken
before October 1st. Under both Federal and State trapping
regulations there is no limit on the number of coyotes that
may be taken.

13 14

The only data on coyote abundance in these units is provided by trapper responses collected by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. This information and citing of coyotes by Department biologists doing aerial surveys of other species indicates that the population in these units is healthy.

20

21 Providing additional harvest opportunity by 22 increasing the harvest limit would benefit subsistence users 23 who hunt and trap for fur animals in the affected units. It 24 is not expected to have any biological impact to the coyote 25 population since populations appear to be healthy and no 26 significant increase in harvest is expected from the 27 increased limit.

28 29

The preliminary conclusion is to support.

30

MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, the comments that 32 we received on what is Proposal 17, the Delta Advisory 33 Committee support the proposal on this one and the next one 34 coming up, 18.

35

We have from Upper Tanana/Fortymile, we'll have to 37 walk though this one. They want to combine -- they say 38 combine with Proposal 52 for Units 11 and 12. We support the 39 increased bag limit while allowing no more than two coyotes 40 to be harvested before October 1st. This is their proposal, 41 so it sound like they're requesting to modify their proposal. 42 So I don't know what the State season is or whatever, but 43 they're asking that no more than two coyotes be harvested 44 before October 1.

45

46 CHAIRMAN MILLER: You have it so it can 47 coincide with the State regulations?

48

MR. FLEENER: No, we adopt the proposal to 50 shoot 10 in Unit 11, that'll be eight more than the State.

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00186
  State has for Unit 11 it's two coyotes, September 1 to April
  30. Unit 12 it's 10, but no more than two before October
3
  1st.
4
5
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Oh, okay.
6
7
                   MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair, I make a motion to
8 adopt Proposal 17 with -- the proposal that would go along
9 with their written comments, allowing no more than two
10 coyotes before October 1st.
11
12
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay, we got a second?
13
14
                   MR. GOOD: Second.
15
                   MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair, I'd like to ask if
16
17 anyone knows if there's going to be a similar regulation for
18 the State, because this takes -- it only aligns it partially
19 for Unit 12, it takes Unit 11 out of alignment with the
20 State. And I see the State supports this, is there going to
21 be something similar with the State to up the take from two
22 to 10?
23
24
                  MS. T. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, I'm not aware
25 of a companion proposal going before the Board of Game this
26 year. It's something that could be partially addressed next
27 year, I guess if having these out of alignment would be a
28 problem. We didn't discuss the whole issue of having these
29 seasons aligned with the area biologist that reviewed these
30 proposals. It's certainly something that we can be prepared
31 to discuss at the Southcentral Council meeting and ensure
32 that that topic gets more attention if you're concerned about
33 it.
34
35
                   MR. FLEENER: Well, I think to keep in the
36 spirit of trying to keep the seasons aligned to avoid
37 confusion it would be good if -- since the State approves of
38 this proposal, that if the State would be inclined to make a
39 proposal to that effect, I think it would be good.
40
41
                   MR. MITCHELL:
                                  That would probably be fine.
42 I think one of the reasons it may not have come up is the
43 vast majority of Unit 11 is Federal land.
44
45
                   MR. FLEENER: Right.
46
47
                  MR. MITCHELL: There's very little State land
48 in Unit 11.
49
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CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any more discussion?

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00187
                   MR. GOOD: Yeah, one comment here. I think
1
2
  that the "only two of which may be taken before October 1st"
3
  I think it would be good to include that.
4
5
                   MR. FLEENER: I did.
6
7
                   MR. GOOD: Okay. Then question.
8
9
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Question has been called.
10 All those in favor of Proposal 17 as modified signify by
11 saying aye.
12
13
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
14
15
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER:
                                    Opposed same sign.
16
17
          (No opposing responses)
18
19
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER:
                                    17 passes.
20
21
                   MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, that brings us up
22 to Proposal 18, which is a similar proposal for the same
23 area, except it's for wolves.
24
25
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Uh-huh.
26
27
                   MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Proposal 18 was
28 submitted by Frank Entsminger and the Upper Tanana/Fortymile
29 Fish and Game Advisory Committee.
                                       This proposal would
30 increase the hunting harvest limits on wolves in Units 11 and
31 12 from five wolves to 10.
32
33
           Current Federal subsistence regulations governing
34 wolf hunting in Units 11 and 12 provide a season of August 10
35 to April 30th, which matches that of the State, but the State
36 harvest limit is five wolves in both units.
37
38
           The Alaska Department of Fish and Game estimates wolf
39 numbers in Unit 11 over the past five years vary from 95 to
40 135 animals, which is thought to approach the historic high
41 population levels of the late 1960s and early 1970s. Annual
42 harvests have ranged from 11 to 35 wolves from 1993 to 1997,
43 averaging approximately 19 wolves per year. The harvest
44 level is considered to be well below that which would
45 stabilize the wolf population.
46
47
           Department biologist believes that Unit 11 wolf
```

48 population is probably at caring capacity, based on the low 49 number of ungulates available as prey during the winter and 50 is probably stabilized by wolf movements to Unit 13 where a

```
00188
  large prey base is available rather than by hunter -- by
  human harvest.
3
          The wolf population in Unit 12 is estimated at 136 to
5 243 animals and is thought to be increasing. The annual
6 harvest ranges from 17 to 74 animals. Harvest are generally
7 below the sustainable 25 to 30 percent of the population
8 size, however average only about 25 percent of wolves are
9 harvested by shooting and 75 percent are taken by trapping or
10 snaring of the total wolf harvest.
11
12
           Increasing the harvest limit from five to 10 wolves
13 would provide some additional opportunity for subsistence
14 hunters and trappers to harvests these valuable furbearers.
15 It is not expected to result in a noticeable increase in the
16 number of wolves taken.
17
18
          The preliminary conclusion is to support the
19 proposal.
20
21
                  MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, as I stated
22 earlier, the Delta Advisory Committee supports this proposal
23 and the Upper Tanana continues to support the proposal they
24 wrote.
25
                  MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chairman, motion to adopt
26
27 Proposal 18.
28
29
                  MR. GOOD: Second.
30
31
                  CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any discussion? I see the
32 State supports this proposal also?
33
34
                   MR. FLEENER: Yes, however, this would also
35 take them out of alignment for the same purposes because the
36 State only has.....
37
38
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Five.
39
40
                  MR. FLEENER: .....five for both units.
41
42
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any more discussion?
43
44
                  MR. GOOD: Question.
45
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Question has been called.
46
47 All those in favor of Proposal 18 signify by saying aye.
```

IN UNISON: Aye.

48 49

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00189
1
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Opposes same sign.
2
3
           (No opposing responses)
4
5
                   MR. MATHEWS: Okay, Mr. Chairman, this brings
6 us back to the C&T proposal and it's dealing with Unit 13
7 black bear where there's no determination. And I know George
8 will remind you of your action dealing with black bear
  yesterday, but this is Proposal 19 on 162.
10
11
                   MR. SHERROD: This was another proposal that
12 you visited last year. If I recall, I'm having to use my
13 memory here, this was one in which you put forth the
14 recommendation of units and adjoining subunits which the
15 Board then opted not to adopt.
16
17
           Th conclusions found on Page 179 address a number of
18 communities, every effort was made in the production of this
19 analysis to identify those communities which had some record
20 of harvesting black bear within Unit 13. But I would again,
21 as Vince has already jogged your memory, in a similar
22 proposal for Unit 12 your decision was to defer the proposal
23 and allow the no determination status to stand, both for
24 reasons of lacking the necessity to do C&T determinations for
25 black bear and recognizing that information on black bear
26 harvest is limited.
27
           And if there are any questions I can expand or you
28
29 can move forwards.
30
31
                  MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman.
32
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Nat.
33
34
35
                  MR. GOOD:
                              I know that George doesn't like to
36 hear this every time we go around, but I'm always concerned
37 when we look at predators and we look at limiting those
38 people who will have access to the predators while this is
39 still our only potential means of predator control and, I
40 don't know, we can't state that, is that.....
41
                   MR. SHERROD: Well, you can state it. It
42
43 doesn't hurt to state it. The reality would be that it makes
44 no difference. I mean, this proposal, as the regulations
45 stand today have no impact because anyone can still come
46 here, hunt under State regulations, which are the same.
47
48
                  MR. GOOD: Right.
49
50
                   MR. SHERROD: So you can state it in theory,
```

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00190
  but realize the practicality, it's not going to have any
  effect.
3
4
                   MR. GOOD: Yeah.
5
6
                   MR. SHERROD: Now, that could change if you
7
  quys opted to remove all harvest limit requirements for black
8 bear.
9
10
                   MR. FLEENER: What a concept?
11
12
                   MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, we do have quite
13 a few comments on that. Upper Tanana/Fortymile oppose it,
14 it's unnecessarily restrictive.
15
           Delta Junction Advisory Committee echoes that, says,
16
17 it's unnecessarily restricts the majority of rural
18 subsistence hunters.
19
20
          Denali Subsistence Resource Commission supports this
21 proposal as modified in the analysis and the reasons stated
22 in the justification.
23
24
                   MR. SHERROD: I would point out, too, that
25 last year the Southcentral Committee met after this body met
26 and they basically supported your -- if I recall they
27 supported your recommendation to -- which was units and
28 subunits, so they were, in spirit, I think, agreeing with the
29 concept there's no reason to restrict and to be as inclusive
30 as possible.
31
32
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Craig.
33
                   MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion
34
35 to adopt Proposal 19.
36
37
                   MR. GOOD: Second.
38
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any discussion?
39
40
41
                   MR. FLEENER: Yeah, Mr. Chair, I think
42 keeping in the spirit of what this Council has wanted to do
43 by not excluding people, I would -- I plan to vote no on this
44 proposal and to keep the no determination so we're not on --
45 so we're not restricting people unnecessarily.
46
47
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead.
48
                  MS. T. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, just the
49
50 approach taken in this proposal is to find positive C&T
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00191
  determination for units or subunits adjoining Unit 13.
2
                  MR. SHERROD: This is a community approach.
3
4
5
                  MS. T. HAYNES: There is an area adjoining
6 Unit 13(E) that is not considered in this proposal. You get
7 down to Unit 16(A) and you have some communities -- you have
8 people living in Petersville Road, in that area, that are
9 very close to the Unit 13 border. And we do have some
10 information in a technical report that appears to show some
11 use of Unit 13 by people in that vicinity. And I guess if
12 there was a recommendation to adopt either this proposal or
13 the staff recommendation that consideration be given to some
14 additional people living in adjoining units.
15
16
                  MR. FLEENER:
                                That's what we tried to do last
17 year when we made the C&T determinations including the unit
18 and adjacent subunits, but the Federal Subsistence Board
19 decided they didn't like that. Our little committee that got
20 together also decided they didn't like it, I reckon, so what
21 we've done so far is to stick with no determination so we
22 don't exclude people, and so that's how I'm intending to
23 vote.
24
25
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: That's fine.
26
27
                  MR. GOOD: Same here. Question.
28
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Question had been called.
29
30 All those in favor of Proposal 19, signify by saying aye.
31
32
           (No positive responses)
33
34
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Opposed same sign.
35
36
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
37
38
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Proposal is defeated.
39
40
                  MR. MATHEWS: Proposal 22 was withdrawn by
41 the author, so we won't be discussing 22. That brings us up
42 to Proposal 26, which deals with a moose season in 13(E).
43
44
                  MR. SHERROD: Can I -- Proposal 43, we're
45 jumping one ahead here, but it's also a black bear proposal,
46 and maybe we can touch on it real quick while we're thinking
47 about black bears and then let Pete finish the last one after
48 we're through, if there's no problem, Mr. Chair.
49
```

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Sure, go ahead.

00192 MR. SHERROD: Okay. Proposal 21 is also a 1 proposal that you dealt with last year. 3 4 CHAIRMAN MILLER: 43. 5

MR. SHERROD: I mean 43, I'm sorry. It deals with black bear in Unit 21 and it's before because of Gerald 8 and his community being neighboring to it. Again, I -- in 9 the same way that there has been in the past some tensions 10 and disagreements between the overlap between the Eastern 11 Interior and Southcentral, we have a similar situation 12 between Western Interior and the Delta in terms of trying to 13 align proposals that allow people to cross that line or 14 preventing them from going across that line.

15

6

7

Since I drafted the original analysis in which I 16 17 basically -- and you'll find that on -- the recommendation 18 for the C&T determination is on Page 216. And be aware that 19 particularly in this unit there is no black bear reporting, 20 so trying to come up with -- so basically there is no tag 21 data, there's no reporting whatsoever, so data here is even 22 more scare than it is in other areas.

23 24

My justification was this. There has been an 25 amendment to that that will go now forward to the Eastern 26 Interior and this also affects Kotzebue Sound area and that 27 recommendation is to make the -- let the no determination 28 stand and defer the proposal. Or actually to defer the 29 proposal.

30

31 Given your past actions, you might want to be 32 consistent in what you do and vote against it, or defer it, I 33 suppose.

34 35

Any questions.

36 37

MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair.

38

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead.

39 40

41 MR. FLEENER: George, you mentioned Kotzebue 42 Sound, that's not very close to Unit 21, is it?

43

44 MR. SHERROD: Well, through the connection up 45 by Ambler, there are records that indicate people have 46 crossed over. There's testimony -- again, it would be not an 47 intensive use, but an opportunistic use.

48

49 MR. FLEENER: Okay. I wasn't exactly sure 50 what you were saying. All right. Thank you.

```
00193
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Vince.
1
2
                   MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, you did have
3
4 written comments on this, and as George pointed out, this has
5 been reviewed by the Northwest Arctic Regional Council.
6 You're reviewing it, Western Interior will be reviewing it
  and Yukon-Kuskokwim Regional Council will be reviewing it
7
8 next week.
9
          The one written comment that I know of from -- and I
10
11 don't know that I can pronounce it, but it's from the Native
12 Corporation for Mountain Village, and they oppose the wording
13 in there that others that have traditionally hunted in 21,
14 that it's too vaque. The communities of Mountain Village,
15 Pitkas Point, St. Mary's and Marshall should be added to the
16 proposed regulation. Currently our residents travel to 21(E)
17 to hunt moose, and while hunting moose take black bear if
18 they encounter them. Chances are the "others" wording would
19 accommodate our residents, but any potential problem should
20 be avoided if our villages were included in the proposal.
21
22
          And the State did submit comments on Proposal 43.
23
24
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Terry.
25
26
                   MS. T. HAYNES: The Department does not
27 support this proposal as written. We believe there are
28 additional sources of information that could be consulted and
29 would show that there is a possibility of black bear use in
30 Unit 21. I think I just -- if there are questions about our
31 written comments I would try to answer those. Like I say,
32 there are additional sources of information available and the
33 proposal -- the staff recommendation is certainly an
34 improvement over the proposal because it does try to specify
35 specific units and communities that should qualify, but we
36 believe it probably under represents the communities that
37 should be considered.
38
                  MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion
39
40 to adopt Proposal 43.
41
42
                  MR. GOOD: Second.
43
44
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay, discussion?
45
                  MR. FLEENER: Hearing the testimony from
46
47 Mountain Village and looking at -- and hearing what George
```

46 MR. FLEENER: Hearing the testimony from 47 Mountain Village and looking at -- and hearing what George 48 also said about the possibility of it accidentally excluding 49 people I would be inclined to vote no on this one also. 50

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00194
                  MR. NICHOLIA: Mr. Chair.
2
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead.
3
4
5
                  MR. NICHOLIA: What you're saying, Craig, is
6
  that....
7
8
                   COURT REPORTER: Would you move the
9 microphone over, please.
                             Thank you.
10
11
                  MR. NICHOLIA: What you're saying, Craig, is
12 that you oppose -- as being from 10 or not hunting in Unit
13 21?
14
15
                  MR. FLEENER: No, absolutely not, that's
16 nowhere near what I mean. If we adopt this proposal what it
17 will do is exclude people from down river, outside of Unit
18 21(E). If we don't adopt it, you still get to hunt there.
19 Adopting this proposal will give you a C&T determination, but
20 it will exclude others that we know hunt there, but don't
21 have a C&T determination. If we don't adopt this it will
22 still allow you to hunt there.
23
24
                  MR. NICHOLIA: Uh-huh.
25
                  MR. FLEENER: You just won't have that C&T
26
27 determination. Adopting it excludes other people, it
28 includes only the people listed on there, but it excludes
29 other....
30
31
                  MR. NICHOLIA: Okay.
32
33
                  CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any more discussion?
34
35
                  MR. P. TITUS: Okay, just adopt it with
36 amendments or modification? Could you modify that proposal?
37
38
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Just vote no on it.
39
40
                  MR. SHERROD: Mr. Chair, if I could -- I
41 should have gone into more detail. Since this analysis was
42 written there has been a request on the part of the Delta
43 Community from being extracted from any consideration for
44 C&T, at this time, for Unit 21 under the belief that they are
45 going to submit another proposal next year in some form.
46 if you were to adopt this you're going to be revisiting it
47 again. And, as I say, probably given your past actions, it
48 would make sense, I think, to reject it. And it may be in
49 front of you and it may not, but rejecting it is not going to
50 in any way harm potential users and may send back to the
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00195
  Board message that you're uncomfortable making black bear
  determinations.
3
4
                   MR. GOOD: Question.
5
6
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Question had been called.
7
  All those in favor of Proposal 43 signify by saying aye.
8
           (No positive responses)
9
10
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Opposed same sign.
11
12
13
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
14
15
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Now, 26. 191.
16
17
                   MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Proposal 26 was
18 submitted by the Copper River Native Association.
19 proposal would lengthen the moose season in Unit 13(E) and
20 Unit 13 - Remainder from August 1 to September 20, to August
21 1 to September 25. So it would tack five days onto the end
22 of the season.
23
           Current Federal subsistence regulations in Unit 13(E)
24
25 and 13 - Remainder allow a season of August 1 through
26 September 20 with a harvest limit of one antlered bull by
27 Federal Registration permit only. In Unit 13(E) only one
28 permit is issued per household.
29
30
           On non-Federal public lands the State Tier II
31 subsistence hunt extends from August 1 though August 19, with
32 a harvest of one bull by permit.
33
34
           The general State season runs from August 20 to
35 September 20 with a harvest limit of one bull, spiked-fork or
36 50-inches or greater antlers or three or more brow tines on
37 at least on antler.
38
           Persons having customary and traditional use of moose
39
40 in Unit 13 are the rural residents of Unit 13 and the
41 residents of Chickaloon and Dot Lake. In Unit 13, residents
42 of McKinley Village and the area along the Parks Highway
43 between mileposts 216 and 239 also have a positive
44 determination, except for the residents of Denali National
45 Park Headquarters.
46
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The Department of Fish and Game survey inventory 48 reports and personal communication with area biologists 49 indicate that the moose numbers declined dramatically in Unit 50 13 during the 1990s following a series of severe winters.

Harvest have range from approximately 900 to 1,000 bulls per year for the last five years, while hunting pressure has 3 exceeded 6,000 hunters in the field.

5

Moose populations are considered stable overall in 6 Unit 13, but are declining in some areas. Calf production is adequate, but survival through the fall season is extremely low. Low calf survival is attributed to heavy predation.

8 9

7

Current moose harvest in Unit 13 is considered to be 10 11 at the maximum rate that the populations can sustain. 12 harvest increases as the season progresses with 26 percent of 13 the entire harvest occurring September 16 and September 20. 14 This is due to increasing visibility after leaf fall and 15 increasing movements of bulls as the rut approaches. 16 are more readily seen because of increased movement and 17 increased vocalization at they search for cows and are also 18 easier to approach. Their vulnerability increases rapidly 19 near the end of September.

20

21 The current September 20 closing date was selected to 22 protect against overharvest during this period of high 23 vulnerability and to avoid disruption of the breeding 24 activity. Hunting after September 20 could interfere with 25 the rut and cause subsequent second breeding resulting in a 26 lower calf production and reduced survival due to the large 27 number of late born calves during the following summer.

28

29 Extending the season to September 25 would also 30 increase hunting pressure on the limited Federal public lands 31 in Unit 13, since no other local areas would be open to moose 32 hunting during this period. Current moose harvest in Unit 13 33 is considered to be at the maximum that the population can 34 sustain. Adding additional days at the end of the season 35 would increase the harvest significantly.

36

37 With that the preliminary conclusion is to oppose the 38 proposal.

39

40 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, the only comment 41 besides Fish and Game's comment was Delta Junction Advisory 42 Committee opposed the proposal because the population cannot 43 withstand that and they supported shortening the State 44 season, so they continue to oppose any additional seasons in 45 this area.

46

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Terry.

47 48

MS. T. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, let me -- David 49 50 may have some language to have, but let me say we, the State,

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00197
  does not support the proposal, we do support the staff
  conclusion because that addresses the issues that have been
3 identified in our comments.
4
                  MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair, I make a motion we
5
6
  adopt Proposal 26.
7
8
                  MR. GOOD: Second.
9
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any discussion?
10
11
12
                  MR. FLEENER: Yes, Mr. Chair. I'm concerned
13 about this one quite a bit because the -- it appears that the
14 people in this unit are not able to get their moose.
15 like the idea of extending a moose season if the moose
16 population can't handle it, but I am concerned that these
17 people are not able to get the moose that they need and I'm
18 wondering what alternatives there are available so that these
19 people can have moose available to them?
20
21
                  MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman.
22
23
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Nat.
24
25
                  MR. GOOD: The problem is the moose simply
26 aren't available and the bottom line is we have a major
27 predator problem in GMU 13 and the question now becomes who's
28 going to deal with it and, I guess, I don't know if anybody
29 has any answers to that.
30
31
                  MR. FLEENER: Well, is that a question or is
32 that....
33
34
                  MR. NICHOLIA: I just don't see how we can
35 add five days to a moose hunt when know the moose population
36 is low in Unit 20(D). (Indiscernible - away from microphone)
37
38
                   MR. FLEENER: Yeah, it would certainly be
39 hard to add five extra days when, you know, they can't add it
40 -- I'd like to get some numbers if anybody is familiar with
41 this area. What the cow:calf ratio is? Anybody in the house
42 know?
43
44
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Vince know.
45
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MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, according to the 47 analysis -- the 1998 calf:cow ratio was only 14 calves:per 48 100 cows, the lowest in over 20 years.

49 50

MR. FLEENER: And what's the bull:cow ratio,

```
00198
  do you know?
2
3
                   MR. DeMATTEO: Bull:cow ratio is
4
  approximately 18:per 100 cows.
5
6
                   MR. FLEENER: And do you know the density,
7
  the moose density?
8
9
                   MR. DeMATTEO: I'm afraid it doesn't mention
10 that.
11
12
                   MR. FLEENER: Okay. Yeah, those are some
13 pretty bad numbers, even Fort Yukon is not that bad.
15
                   MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, if I may muddy the
16 waters a little further here. If you look at the map for
17 Unit 13(E). You'll notice that the western portion of 13(E)
18 dips into Denali National Park, but if I'm correct the C&T
19 does not extend to access near the park. It's in the
20 resident zoned communities listed in the park. So if you
21 look at the remainder of 13(E) there, I don't see a whole lot
22 of land, in fact, I don't see any.
23
24
                  MR. FLEENER: So why do we have a Federal
25 registration hunt in an area where there's no Federal land?
26
27
           Yes, sir.
2.8
29
                  MR. TWITCHELL: Hollis Twitchell, Denali
                  The lands in Unit 13(E), the park additions
30 National Park.
31 are opened to subsistence uses and we do have a Federal
32 registration permit hunt in that area. We typically issue
33 about between 70 and 80 registration permits to residents of
34 Cantwell, in that area. Although we didn't have any moose
35 census done this last year because of snow conditions in that
36 area, so we don't have any current information to add to what
37 you have in your report here.
38
39
           I will say that the Subsistence Resource Commission
40 for Denali last year addressed a proposal that would
41 eliminate the one moose per household provision that exists
42 in that area, and they oppose that because of their concerns
43 about the moose population in that area, recommending that
44 they retain that one moose per household provision. They are
45 concerned about moose populations in that particular area.
46
47
           I guess I'll apologize because I didn't bring this
48 particular proposal before the Commission yesterday or
49 Friday, it was an oversight on my part. I would speculate
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50 that they would be very concerned about extending the season

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00199
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as well. I'll also state that I've had a subsistence user call me last year expressing concerns of not seeing as many bulls in the area as he had typically seen in the past.

4 5

So I don't have any official position from the Commission in terms of this proposal, I would recommend from the Park Service standpoint that considering the large number of registration permits that we issue and the fact that the population is considered to be at a harvested at a high level, that we take a pretty conservative approach to this as 11 well.

12

MR. FLEENER: What were the numbers per 14 census -- when you did the census a few years ago? Overall 15 population?

16

MR. TWITCHELL: What we were just surveying is just the area right in Broad Pass, pretty much the park railroad that goes through that area westward to the park areas and those would be areas from Cantwell down to Dunkle Hills and the Chulitna River, which would encompass both the park lands as well as the adjoining State lands out to the railroad. And the numbers varied from about 150 to about 190. We did three years of surveying in the early '90s. Those were done in the fall time and primarily in late October, early November.

27

Snowfall in those particular times of the year in the 29 Broad Pass area is pretty high and a lot of the moose that 30 are in Broad Pass are moved up into the drainages around 31 Cantwell because of the snow deposition. And so it happens 32 to be a winter area where moose congregate so that those 33 numbers represent quite a bit of moose for the geographic are 34 that we were looking at, but it's the result of the 35 environmental conditions and the seasonal movement of moose 36 up into the drainages.

3738

MR. FLEENER: Thanks.

39 40

MR. TWITCHELL: Thank you.

41

MR. FLEENER: Do you happen to know if 43 there's an intensive moose management plan for this area, 44 Unit 13?

45

MR. TWITCHELL: No, there is not. We've been 47 asked -- we've been moving to try to do cooperative census 48 with the State of Alaska. Currently they use a tend count 49 studies in the Broad Pass area and we would like to work with 50 them to do a better census in that area using.....

00200 MR. FLEENER: It sounds like it's actually 1 2 beyond censusing stage and it sound like it would be a good 3 candidate for some intensive management. I know that the 4 State has been proposing a lot of intensive management areas 5 where moose populations are low and this sounds like a good 6 area. I don't know what the State has to say about that. 7 8 MR. DAVID JAMES: Mr. Chairman, the Board of 9 Game, which will be meeting starting next week, will be 10 reviewing Southcentral proposals and among them is intensive 11 management identification process. It's pretty likely that 12 13 will make it. 13 14 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, if you look at the 15 map at 13 again, as I see it, they have opportunity to hunt 16 on BLM lands in 13(B) and there's a better map of it that was 17 hanging here somewheres. 18 19 MR. GOOD: It's on the back table now. 20 MR. DeMATTEO: It's on the back table. 21 22 There's several corridors there that they have an opportunity 23 to hunt, but it's not clear to me at this point do Copper 24 River communities have resident zoned status in the park? 25 26 MR. TWITCHELL: No. The eliqible subsistence 27 users for this area of Unit 13(E) would be either the 28 community of Cantwell, which is a resident zoned community, 29 as well as the residents of McKinley Village, along the Parks 30 Highway, mile 216 to 239. Those individuals would be the 31 individuals who have subsistence use permits. McKinley 32 Village is not a resident zoned community, so we have about 33 currently six individual in McKinley Village who have 34 subsistence use permits for the use of the park area. 35 would be Cantwell residents and the six households in 36 McKinley Village. 37 38 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Pete. 39 40 MR. DeMATTEO: Thanks, Hollis. So with that 41 I -- this defaults this proposal in the affected area, which 42 is the BLM land along the Richardson Highway and up along the 43 Delta River. So if this proposal was adopted by the Board it 44 would concentrate potential additional harvest those last 45 five days in that area alone. I think we've whittled it down 46 to that. 47 48 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. Vince. 49

MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, on the parks side

of it, maybe the -- since the Subsistence Resource Commission didn't review it you might support whatever action they would take if this came back before them. Since only those can hunt in there and since they're going to get a moose to provide by one per household, an additional five days -- I'm having difficulty with this argument that it's going to concentrate hunting in 13(E) with an additional five days because you already have a limitation on how many people can hunter there on park lands.

10 11

But I think the question that Pete is bringing up is 12 Copper River Native Association doesn't have status to hunt 13 with in the park, so I'm just cautioning you when you bring 14 up seasons like this and you say no, because the population 15 can't withstand the additional harvest, before you make the 16 decision to say yes to that, you need to look at are other 17 uses occurring there that do not have a subsistence priority 18 before you say the subsistence priority should be restrained 19 or status quo. That's what I'm concerned about. There's a 20 step before you jump to the next one.

2122

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Nat.

23

MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman, I intend to vote no 25 for a couple of reasons. One, September 25th is getting very 26 late and the seconds would have to be there simply isn't the 27 resource in this area. And I think that when the Board does 28 meet they're going to find that this is going to be a very 29 tough one to deal with and it's going to involve a lot of 30 controversy.

31

There's going to be a lot of proposals at that State 33 Board meeting that are going to involved reducing seasons, 34 there's going to be a lot of interest in doing other things 35 and I think that that's going to be a pretty hot topic there. 36 Regardless of what happens, I think we're going to be out of 37 alignment with the State's present status rather shortly in 38 that particular area.

39

MR. FLEENER: My main interest in this one 41 wasn't necessarily alignment with the State, though. My main 42 interest with this one was because these people aren't able 43 to get their moose.

44

MR. GOOD: Right.

45 46

MR. FLEENER: Although I agree, I don't like 48 the idea of lengthening the season. Some alternatives need 49 to be brought up to where these people have some way of 50 getting their moose.

```
00202
                  MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman, we have concentrated
2 on Denali here, but we also have back on the Copper River
3 side, we have Wrangell-St. Elias, are here any comments from
  them?
5
6
                   MR. FLEENER: Isn't that in Unit 12 or
7
  something?
8
                   MR. GOOD: 11. And I would think -- I don't
9
10 know who all in 13 would have C&T in Wrangell.
11
12
                   MR. MITCHELL: There's an extremely small
13 piece of Federal land in Unit 13 in Wrangell-St. Elias
14 National Park, it's a small piece.
15
                  MR. FLEENER: By Slana?
16
17
18
                  MR. MITCHELL: It's preserved just by Slana
19 there, but it's such a small area and access is so difficult
20 it's essentially invisible for us, it's not significant.
21
                   MR. GOOD: Do any residents of Unit 13 have
22
23 C&T in the park? The boundary of 13.....
24
25
                   MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, some of the resident
26 zones communities are.....
27
28
                  MR. GOOD: Right.
29
                  MR. MITCHELL: .....physically located in 13,
30
31 yeah.
32
33
                  MR. GOOD: Yeah, that was -- so far it gives
34 me part of it.
35
36
                  MR. FLEENER: So you're saying there is
37 opportunity for them to.....
38
                   MR. GOOD: I don't know that. That was my
39
40 question. To what degree, I don't know.
41
                  MR. MITCHELL: They've got access to the
42
43 Federal seasons in 11, certainly.
44
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. Any more discussion?
46 You can make a motion at this time.
47
48
                   MR. GOOD: Do we have a motion on the table?
49 You made a motion, didn't you, Craig?
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00203
                  MR. FLEENER: Yes, the motion is to adopt
2 Proposal 26.
3
4
                   MR. GOOD: Question.
5
6
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Question has been called.
  All those in favor of Proposal 26 signify by saying aye.
7
8
           (No positive responses)
9
10
11
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Opposed same sign.
12
13
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
14
15
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Is that it?
16
17
                   MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, that completes
18 all of the proposals unless someone has one in their hip
19 pocket.
20
21
                   MR. FLEENER: I have 10 of them here.
22
23
                   MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Mr. Fleener has 10,
24 we'll vote them out. I think at this point we can either go
25 into annual reports, which is the next topic or we can....
26
27
                   MR. FLEENER: Take five.
28
                   MR. MATHEWS: .....break for lunch and check
29
30 out of rooms and do all that kind of stuff.
31
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yeah, we'll probably break
32
33 for lunch, huh?
34
35
                   MR. P. TITUS: And I think might want to go
36 to church, too.
37
                   MR. MATHEWS: What time shall we return?
38
39
40
                   MR. P. TITUS: After church.
41
                   MR. FLEENER: Church gets over at 9:30.
42
43
44
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: 1:00 o'clock.
45
                   MR. MATHEWS: Yes, 1:00 o'clock should be
46
47 fine.
48
           (Off record - 11:22 a.m.)
49
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00204
          (On record - 1:17 p.m.)
1
2
                  MR. GOOD: Are we ready?
3
4
5
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yeah, we're ready.
6
7
                  MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman, I move to reconsider
8 Proposal Number 26. Is there a second?
9
10
                  MR. FLEENER: Second.
11
12
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay, moved and seconded.
13 Proposal 26 is back on the floor.
14
15
                  MR. GOOD: We have to vote to reconsider it
16 now.
17
18
                   MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chair, you need to pass a
19 motion to bring it back on the table. That's the motion to
20 reconsider.
21
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yeah, let's so that.
22
23
24
                  MR. GOOD: Question.
25
26
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay.
27
28
                  MR. GOOD: Question.
29
30
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: What page?
31
32
                  MR. GOOD: Oh, 101.
33
34
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Thank you. Okay. Question
35 has been called. All those in favor of bringing Proposal 26
36 back on the floor signify by saying aye.
37
38
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
39
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Opposed same sign.
40
41
42
          (No opposing responses)
43
44
                   MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman, with regards to
45 Proposal 26, I move that we defer Proposal 26 to the
46 Southcentral and leave it for them.
47
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Can that be done?
48
49
50
                  MR. GOOD: Is there a second though?
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00205
                   MR. NICHOLIA: Second.
1
2
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. Discussion? Craig?
3
4
5
                  MR. FLEENER: I don't -- I'm getting
6 clarification.
7
8
                   MR. P. TITUS: Why was it given to use if
9 (indiscernible - away from microphone) region?
10
11
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: That's one of those joint
12 proposals.
13
14
                  MR. NICHOLIA: Call for question.
15
16
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. Question has been
17 called. All those in favor of deferring Proposal 26 to
18 Southcentral signify by saying aye.
19
20
                   IN UNISON EXCEPT ONE: Aye.
21
22
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Opposed same sign.
23
24
                  UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Aye.
25
26
                  MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, the reasoning
27 from your action is because that it is a Southcentral
28 proposal and you're showing respect to the home region?
29
30
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yeah.
31
32
                  MR. MATHEWS: Okay.
33
34
                   MR. GOOD: That's what we were thinking.
35
36
                   MR. P. TITUS: That's what we were thinking.
37
38
                   MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Mr. Chairman, if there's
39 no more reconsiderations then we need to move on to the
40 agenda. And there's been a request to take up an update on
41 fisheries management.
42
43
                  MR. P. TITUS: No, we skipped that.
44
                  MR. MATHEWS: Then we'll go into Annual
46 Report and we'll....
47
48
                   MR. P. TITUS: You skipped the subsistence
49 resource that I put in there yesterday. After proposal
50 review and recommendations.
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                  MR. MATHEWS: Oh, I'm sorry that's correct.
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3
                   MR. P. TITUS: You better be sorry. I
4 brought this up yesterday to put it on record that when we're
5 dealing with subsistence we deal all the resources, not just
6 part of it. And we're going to doing the same thing for
7 fish, because fish go through the whole region, not just --
8 there's white fish and pike and all different kind of fish,
9 not only salmon goes around here. We all live on different
10 species of fish. And if we're going to deal with subsistence
11 we should just be dealing with all the resources instead of
12 half of it.
13
           That's all I got to say on that.
14
15
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: So are you saying we should
16
17 move on to agency reports?
18
19
                   MR. P. TITUS: Yes, but put that on record
20 and it should go into the Annual Report, too.
21
22
                   MR. MATHEWS: So if I understand, when we
23 talk in the Annual Report that you want it referenced in
24 there that when discussion about subsistence uses that we
25 need to look at all the resources that are associated not in
26 separate each species discussion?
27
28
           (No audible reply)
29
30
                   MR. MATHEWS: Okay. That was supported by
31 the C&T working group if I understood that correctly, that
32 they wanted it a combined species approach, not a let's talk
33 moose and then we talk sheep and then we talk something else.
34
35
                   MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair, I think the special
36 emphasis is on fisheries though to make sure that fish are
37 included.
38
39
                   MR. NICHOLIA: Fish are recognized as a
40 subsistence resource.
41
42
                  MR. P. TITUS: All the resources, not only
43 just moose, whatever you got on the agenda. We don't just
44 live on meat.
                 That's it.
45
46
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Shall we move on to agency
47 reports?
48
                  MR. MATHEWS: No, we're kind of jumping out
49
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50 of the agenda. We have a request to do fishery management

update and to do coordination efforts with Fish and Game and then we would do Annual Report, if that's okay. If that is alright, then we'll go to fisheries management update which is under Tab U as in Utopia and Sue....

5

MR. FLEENER: How about Unalaska?

6 7 8

8 MR. MATHEWS: Unalaska, but there is a 9 Utopia, Alaska. Sue Detwiler will be presenting the update 10 and it's under Tab U.

11

MS. DETWILER: Thank you, Vince and members 13 of the Council. I'm not sure that you can make any kind of 14 logical connection between Utopia and fisheries management, 15 but I appreciate the effort anyway, Vince.

16

Okay, Tab U has some written materials on Federal fisheries management and I'll basically be going through the outline that's on the first page of the written materials that you have. And as I think most everybody here knows, the Federal agencies that have subsistence responsibilities are preparing to extend their jurisdiction for subsistence management to the fisheries that are in navigable waters, which the Federal government has reserved water rights. That's about two-thirds of the navigable waters in the state.

26 27

And I think most everybody here also knows that that 28 extension of jurisdiction is a result of the Katie John 29 decision, that decision was made by the Federal courts in 30 1995 and in that decision the court said that the 31 subsistence priority in Title VIII of ANILCA applies to 32 fisheries that are in Navigable waters within which the 33 Federal government has reserved water rights.

34

Since the court decision in 1995 Congress has imposed a series of moratoriums that prevent us from actually implementing expanded fisheries management. Congress recently imposed another moratorium on us preventing implementation this year, but the current moratorium is a little bit different from the previous ones in that it actually provides for phased in Federal implementation and it also provides for funding for subsistence fisheries management, neither or which has been done in the previous 44 moratoriums.

45

The terms of the moratorium are that Congress set 47 aside \$11,000.000 for subsistence fisheries management. If 48 the State Legislature acts during this legislative session, 49 that is before the end of May of this year to put on the next 50 election ballot an initiative that would allow the State to

comply with the rural priority in ANILCA, the State will get the entire \$11,000,000. If the State doesn't act by the end of May then the Federal agencies will get \$1,000,000 to prepare for implementation. And if the State further does not act by the end of September this year then the Federal agencies will get the remainder of the \$11,000,000. In other words, the remaining \$10,000,000 and will actually implement subsistence fisheries management beginning October 1st of this year.

10 11

So we published the Final Rule that includes the regulations for expanded fisheries management in January of this year. You've seen the Proposed Rule and I think you're pretty familiar with the provision in that, so I'll just briefly go over those.

16

The Final Rule doesn't change much from the Proposed Rule that you looked at your last meeting. It basically incorporates most of the State's subsistence regulations. It identifies the waters in which we will be asserting jurisdiction. And basically those waters are the inland waters that are adjacent to or within conservation system units. So, in other words, it's waters that are adjacent to within the parks, refuges, conservation areas, like Steese/White Mountain area, wild and scenic rivers and also within the Forest Service units. It does not include waters that are outside of those Federal units.

28

It also responds to, aside from Katie John decision, 29 30 two petitions that were submitted by subsistence advocates 31 including Stevens Village, Dena'ina Corporation, AITC, 32 RuralCap, the Native American Rights Fund and then there were 33 several other petitioners. They submitted two petitions to 34 which we responded positively in the Proposed Rule. 35 one provision that responds to one of the petitions is to 36 include lands that have been selected by but not yet conveyed 37 to Native corporations and to the State. And the other 38 provision is that it reiterates the Secretary of Interior's 39 authority to extend jurisdiction off of Federal public lands 40 to regulated hunting, fishing and trapping off of Federal 41 public lands, if those activities are causing a failure to 42 provide for the subsistence opportunity on Federal public 43 lands.

44

And then in more general terms it adopts State 46 customary and traditional use determinations for fish and 47 shellfish, as well as the State's seasons and bag limits.

48

So the bottom line is that we'll start out with 50 Federal subsistence fishing regulations that are pretty much

the same existing State subsistence fishery regulations.

We'll be coordinating closely with the State. We have

neither the intent or the ability right now to establish

stand-alone program that's independent of the State's. We'll

be relying quite heavily on the State's existing fisheries

management program. What we envision doing is focusing

mostly on preseason management planning to make sure that the

State's management plan incorporates subsistence uses. And

then we would anticipate exercising limited Federal oversight

on an in-season basis only over waters that are within the

Federal conservation system units.

12 13

So we've been coordinating with the State. Our technical level people are meeting with the State's technical level people to try and coordinate the processes and that sort of thing. And also to allow our staff an opportunity to learn more about how the State fisheries management mechanisms work.

19 20

And the Federal Subsistence Board and two
representatives from the Board of Fish, as well as the
Commissioner of Fish and Game and his Deputy Commissioner all
met to try to identify some of the problems that the State
policy level that are inherent in dual fisheries management.

25 26

There's one piece of pending litigation that would 27 prevent this expansion of Federal subsistence management. If 28 it's decided upon in favor of the plaintiffs, the plaintiffs 29 are the Legislative Council who filed a lawsuit on behalf of 30 the State Legislature. And the complaint challenges the 31 constitutionality of Title VIII. The case was dismissed in 32 July of last year, but has been appealed, and we expect a 33 decision from the appeals court this summer.

34

So what comes next is to develop an organizational structure that accommodates expanded fisheries management. Right now our structure is focused on wildlife, so we'll need to make some changes to incorporate fisheries. We'll have to hire additional staff that has fisheries background and that staff will be working with the regional teams and the Regional Councils on fisheries issues. We'll continue working with the State, the Board of Fish and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to develop a cooperative strategy for dealing with both preseason management planning as well as in-season actions.

46

There are several unresolved issues that we will have 48 to deal with, including customary trade, developing a 49 fisheries proposal process and, significantly to this region, 50 reviewing the Advisory Council structure to make sure that

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  there's cohesive advisory system that deals with the Yukon
  River.
3
4
          And then, finally, we'll be looking for opportunities
5 to have cooperative agreements with Native and Tribal
6 entities to implement part of the program, and most likely
7 that would include harvest data collection, monitoring and
8 the same sorts of things that we've currently been doing that
9 relate to wildlife, like we've done with TCC.
10
          So that was my prepared presentation for fisheries.
11
12
13
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any questions? Go ahead.
14
15
                  MR. L. TRITT: In your getting ready for
16 takeover and all that stuff, do you have any kind of
17 provision for learning from the Natives about what goes on
18 out there, you know, just like learning about the animals and
19 plants and the cycle and all that stuff and how we relate to
20 it?
21
22
                  MS. DETWILER: We would probably look to be
23 doing the same things that we have done with wildlife, and a
24 lot of that information comes out at the Regional Council
25 meetings where we hear testimony and listen to Regional
26 Council members about the things that you're talking about.
27
28
                  MR. L. TRITT: I mean, like class or workshop
29 or whatever on it. We go to a lot of testimonies, but nobody
30 ever sits down and listens to testimonies.
31
                  MS. DETWILER: I think that we would be open
32
33 to that sort of thing. If you had suggestions that we could
34 work on to do that, we'd certainly like to hear them.
35
36
                  MR. L. TRITT: Yeah, I think something in
37 that direction, yeah.
38
39
                  MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman.
40
41
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Vince.
42
                  MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, just so I get the
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44 record clear, I think at previous meetings I led this

45 Council, as well as Western Council, to understand, as she 46 portrayed in there, that the waters that are within the 47 conservation units would fall underneath this expanded 48 program. But when I described that to you in previous 49 meeting, I said all the lands that were within there. And 50 Sue can correct me on this, but there is -- the Solicitor is

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looking into the area from the uplands to the open water, 2 that area in between is generally State jurisdiction, and 3 when I portrayed it to you in earlier meetings, I said that 4 would fall underneath this program, that it would be one large mass of land that you would be looking over. 6 incorrect on that or corrected. That land between the 7 uplands and the open water would still fall under 8 jurisdiction, unless something has changed since I was last 9 advised of this. So fisheries all the water within the 10 conservation unit would be under this program. For wildlife 11 you would still just go up to uplands, that little piece of 12 land would not fall under this program. And then that's it. 13 14 I'm pointing this out because that's going to be key 15 information when you start looking at wildlife seasons if we 16 go into fisheries because you'll still have that ribbon of 17 land that may have a different season, different harvest 18 limits, different requirements. In the past we talked about 19 it as being all one and that's not correct unless I've been 20 misinformed. 21 22 MS. DETWILER: We haven't gotten the 23 Solicitor's opinion back on that yet, so it's possible that 24 everything under the ordinary high water mark, including fish 25 and wildlife, will be included, but we don't know yet. 26 27 MR. MATHEWS: I just wanted that clear 28 because when we do get that answer back then we'll have to 29 revisit this, so this is just to let you know that. 30 31 MR. NICHOLIA: Mr. Chairman. 32 33 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Gerald. 34 35 MR. NICHOLIA: If the Legislature doesn't 36 act, are you guys prepared to take over fisheries management 37 on Federally controlled lands? 38 MS. DETWILER: Are we right now? No. 39 40 41 MR. NICHOLIA: Are you willing? 42 43 MS. DETWILER: Yes. 44 45 MR. NICHOLIA: Okay. 46 47 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Nat. 48 MR. GOOD: This -- the one thing under B 49 50 here, selected but not yet conveyed lands within the

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  boundaries, et cetera, is that going to increase the amount
  of land which we will then have under our jurisdiction?
3
4
                   MS. DETWILER: Yes.
5
6
                   MR. GOOD: And that will be no only for
7
  fisheries, then, but for wildlife as well?
8
9
                   MS. DETWILER: Yes.
10
11
                   MR. GOOD: All right.
12
13
                   MR. NICHOLIA: Another question, too, is that
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14 proposal from the Yukon River Drainage Fishery Association 15 become a Council for fishery management along the whole 16 Yukon, from the border to the mouth? I know we shot that 17 down in this Council, but how does the Federal Board or 18 Federal agencies take that proposal?

19

20 MS. DETWILER: They haven't made a decision 21 yet. It's one of the things they have to look at and I don't 22 know which way it's going to go. 23

24 MR. NICHOLIA: But I would suggest that it be 25 considered, because I know I spoke against it the last time, 26 but I went to their last meeting, I know they face a lot if 27 issues up and down the river and most of the hardest issues 28 come from the Fort Yukon area and places closest to natural 29 refuges and that's why I wanted to know about that now, 30 because I could tell the people I've been dealing with what 31 to expect.

32 33

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead.

34

MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, to echo what Sue 35 36 saying, that internally we'll be looking at various options, 37 something similar to Yukon River Fisheries Drainage 38 Association, a super council, other combinations that could 39 happen. I believe from now until next fall there'll be this 40 process and then it should be reported back to the Council --41 I assume back to the Council on the various options of 42 dealing with this because you have Western Interior and Yukon 43 Kuskokwim Delta Advisory Committee on the Yukon River. 44 other river that you touch upon, and hopefully I get my 45 geography right here, is the relationship with the Copper 46 River and the Delta -- yeah, and the Delta River, that's 47 right. I'm sorry, that's correct. So there will be other 48 river drainages that are important to fisheries that this 49 Council will overlap with. The Yukon always comes to mind 50 and Copper, but there will be other rivers that have Federal

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  lands, that have a high dependency, subsistence dependency
2 on, so there's going to have to be some high level
3 coordination between the Councils for management as it
4 proceeds.
5
6
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Philip.
7
8
                  MR. P. TITUS: I've been with the State
9 Advisory Committee since the mid '70s and in the beginning we
10 were always fighting with Lower Yukon over fish and I sure
11 hate to see that start up again. If the community divided,
12 that's what will happen.
13
14
                  MS. DETWILER: Uh-huh.
15
16
                   MR. P. TITUS: I can see it, I went through
17 it before. That's all I have, Mr. Chairman.
18
19
                  MR. NICHOLIA: So what you're saying, Philip
20 is that this type of association incorporated into the
21 assumed Federal management of fisheries that there would be
22 opposition from lower river/upper river regardless of the
23 association being still intact?
24
25
                  MR. P. TITUS: It's a common thing in the
26 association to vote on consensus and being divided, like we
27 were, during the State -- I could show you proposals that we
28 submit and they submit that just contradict each other and we
29 got nowhere. I don't know if it did the fish any good.
30
31
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: You have something to say,
32 Lincoln?
33
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MR. L. TRITT: Yeah, do you have anything in 34 35 the works for co-management or any kind of a.....

36

37 MS. DETWILER: From what I understand the 38 direction is coming down from Washington that we're going to 39 be focusing more in fisheries than we did on wildlife on 40 doing cooperative agreements with Native organizations and 41 tribes. We've done that, to a certain extent, with wildlife, 42 but there's much more pressure now for us to do that more 43 with fisheries.

44

45 MR. L. TRITT: How about -- just another 46 question, the State in general, is there any kind of a 47 vehicle to get the whole state to work together?

48

49 MS. DETWILER: In terms -- you mean the State 50 administration or.....

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MR. L. TRITT: Yeah or the different areas to

coordinate and, you know.

3 4

MS. DETWILER: Uh-huh.

5 6

7

MR. L. TRITT: One of the things that I was interested in when I first got on this Board is that, you 8 know, we have our own little caucus to catch up on the 9 behavior of the animals in each of our areas and that way we 10 know what's going on, you know. And that usually helps to 11 find out what's going on in other areas out there, how 12 animals in our area behave.

13

14

MS. DETWILER: Yeah, I think one of the 15 things that we're planning on doing is, I might speak to that 16 a little bit, is having better coordination with the State 17 Advisory Committees. We've already got a cooperative 18 agreement with the State now on two of the regions, 19 Southcentral and Bristol Bay to bring in those Advisory 20 Committee members to the Regional Council meetings to have 21 more people from the region to discuss resource issues, and 22 not just the Regional Council members.

23

24 MR. L. TRITT: Sometimes when bears or 25 something disappears from our village, we learn from other 26 villages where they are, you know.

27 28

MS. DETWILER: Uh-huh.

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Vince.

29

30

31

32 MR. MATHEWS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I think Sue 33 brought up a good point, it is a pilot program with 34 Southcentral and Bristol Bay. The Eastern Interior was 35 looked at because of the overlap proposals, but they thought 36 for a pilot that it would be best to go with Southcentral and 37 Bristol Bay so they were funding for Advisory Committee, 38 perhaps to the Council meetings and I think to the Board, I'm 39 not sure to the Board meeting.

40

41 And what I'm getting -- preliminary indications is 42 that it's been well received. We'll have to see and if it is 43 then expand from there. Because of the make up of the 44 proposals that you just completed it was too hard to pull in 45 the other Advisory Committees, because here -- we met here, 46 so Delta Junction is here, Upper Tanana is here, et cetera, 47 et cetera, so it was best to keep it separate, but I've had 48 dialogue with the State on this coordination on Advisory 49 Committees, so they're quite receptive. The Committees are 50 on a spectrum of understanding of the Federal program, so I

know that when we go to a pilot or a full blown program here in the Interior, there's going to be some resistance because 3 it is a lot to learn, as you know, two systems and how they integrate, so I would like you, when you hear those concerns, 5 explain to them the benefits at the same time, but, yes, it's 6 a whole 'nother book they're going to get and et cetera, so 7 -- but this meeting here is a perfect example of how well it 8 could work because Upper Tanana had representatives here. 9 Frank was representing, I believe, at this meeting Tok 10 Cutoff, whatever that other name for that one, and then Delta 11 Junction was present here, so it's one way to go to get more 12 involvement.

13

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay.

14 15

MS. DETWILER: One other thing I can offer 16 17 Mr. Tritt and that is that every year the Regional Council 18 Chairs, statewide, do get together right before the spring 19 Board meeting and that's one other opportunity for them to 20 get together and sort of share information with other regions 21 in the State and, you know, see if there are any statewide 22 things that they want to talk about.

23

24 MR. DAVEY JAMES: I got a couple here. 25 these -- you're name is Sue, huh?

26 27

MS. DETWILER: Yes.

28

MR. DAVEY JAMES: You mentioned you wanted to 29 30 hear some other issues there affecting the State fisheries 31 right now and the process it's going through. My problem is 32 the process, one of the issues I was talking about yesterday 33 the Birch Creek and Dall River, the commercial fishermen out 34 of Fairbanks was sending a proposal to the State Board and 35 the State Board accepted it and they broke ANILCA and Title 36 VIII and Federal laws everything there. They repealed it six 37 months later, but when they accepted that proposal they never 38 had the courtesy of informing the villages that's going to be 39 directly affected by the proposal, you know, closing the 40 fishing season from May to September there, subsistence 41 fishing.

42

43 And the other process proposal is coming up next 44 month in the State Board of Fisheries is presented by the 45 residents of Eagle, they seen a certain amount of king salmon 46 being eaten -- feeding the dogs with the subsistence fish and 47 that. And so he's presenting a proposal that shall limit the 48 take and the seasons of subsistence people there and keep the 49 commercial and processors takes and season at the same level. 50 The problem with the State Fisheries Board is that the State

agencies, fisheries, is that they're not respecting the Fish and Game Advisory Board that they themselves set up. There's no protocol respect for these Fish and Game Advisories and that's what my counterpart mentioned there.

5 6

And it's been proven that any John Doe off the street, anyplace off the street, can come off the streets or come off the woods, anyplace, and present a proposal that's going to directly affect people's way of life. And I don't think -- they should got through a process, a protocol or that's what you really need to look at. You can't continue having this, this is a problem.

14

And the other one there is the enforcement. The Fish and Game Advisory Board for Eastern Interior has \$10,000 to 17 meet for four or five different, you can correct me on that, 18 on Fish and Game Advisory Committees around the northern 19 area, and that's just barely enough to meet one or two times. 20 And the Fish and Game Advisory Board coming in on their own 21 time, they don't get paid. They get paid six or seven months 22 down the line and the problem with this, too, they changed 23 the regulations and the funding source of that.

24

We had a problem at Fort Yukon this summer where we 26 had people that live out in the woods, 25, 30, 50, 100 miles out, and their fishing and here comes the enforcement officer with plane and four or five people jumping off and they're checking their fish wheel. Fish wheel is supposed to stop at 6:00. Well, here's a poor guy who doesn't have no way of finding out it's supposed to stop at 6:00 and here they told him they were going to take his food, they were going to take his fish wheel next time, just because there's two fish was in there. There was two fish that were in there and check it at 6:15, you know. And they're writing their tickets after them.

37

And there's been thousand of dollars going out in the 39 wood just for two fish and we allow commercial fishermen to 40 kill off all the eggs in the fish. To get the eggs -- to get 41 the king salmon and just get the eggs and take the eggs home. 42 That's killing babies there, too. We made that legal for 43 them to do that, you know. We have a lot of work to work on.

44

And the other one there is the other organizations, 46 entities, that say they're speaking up on behalf of the 47 tribal people there. And there are problems with these other 48 organizations, big problems. Is our voice being heard or is 49 it just being played in with other groups? You really need 50 to look at the other organizations really hard. And does it

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really speak for the people. For our people, Yukon Flats, it's all commercial -- I mean -- excuse me. We're all subsistence. The one that was commercial license in Fort Yukon he only sells one or two, few fishes to get gas. Five or 10 gallons of gas, he goes out with his 25 horsepower and that's it.

7 8

And this other organization that's being in place
never really echoes that. We present proposal last month or
last week to them and they didn't even consider it. They
look and they let it go back, but they considered other
proposals that had been passed around on notepads. So it's
really -- you really have to look hard at other
organizations, are they really representing the people. And
tif they do, how does the information go to them, these
representatives that supposed to be representing us.

17

18 So I'm glad that -- first time I heard of the pilot 19 program here. Thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any other questions or 22 comments?

23

(No audible responses)

2425

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Thank you.

262728

MS. DETWILER: Thank you.

29

MR. MATHEWS: She was also going to bring up 31 the coordination discussion with Fish and Game and then David 32 James is going to follow that up with a project that's going 33 on, if that's all right?

34

MS. DETWILER: This is a fairly short agenda item, it's further down in your agenda, but it follows logically with the fisheries because of the coordination with the State.

39

And right now, as I mentioned earlier, our
coordination with the State is pretty much focusing on
fisheries management, but a couple of years ago there was a
stepped up effort to improve coordination with the State in
ferms of wildlife. And a Federal/State working group was
established to identify ways of improving coordination and
communication between Department of Fish and Game and the
Federal Subsistence Program and they identified several
options for making those improvements.

49 50

One was a sooner opportunity for ADF&G to review the

proposal analyses. Another was to have ADF&G participate in an interagency Staff Committee meetings, where the Staff 3 Committee develops their recommendations that they later make 4 to the Board. And then a third option that this working 5 group came up with was that ADF&G would make a commitment to 6 improve their participation at Regional Council meetings.

So we implemented two of those changes, Fish and Game 9 now reviews the technical analyses in the process and they 10 also make it a point to send, more consistently, their people 11 to the Regional Council meetings. So that was basically the 12 outcome of that group. The meetings of that group sort of 13 dropped off as we started focusing more and more on 14 developing the fisheries rule, so that was the progression of 15 coordination between the Federal Subsistence Program and 16 ADF&G.

17 18

7

8

And that's all I had.

19 20

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Questions?

21 22

(No audible responses)

23

24 MR. DAVID JAMES: Mr. Chair, I just wanted to 25 give you and the other Council members a very brief update on 26 an ongoing project that involves the Yukon Flats. A year ago 27 the Yukon Flats Fish and Game Advisory Committee submitted a 28 proposal to the Board of Game to allow for a community 29 harvest. It was a proposal that the Board took a close look 30 at, but when they looked at what the various legal 31 ramifications were to try to implement it, they backed off 32 and deferred. They requested that we, the Wildlife Division 33 within the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, then enter 34 into a working agreement to continue the dialogue with the 35 Advisory Committee to come up with a proposal for the next 36 meeting, which would be a year from now, next year, to see if 37 we could come up with a way to accommodate the desires and 38 the concerns that were the basis for that proposal in the 39 first place.

40

41 So what's happened since then is a series of 42 meetings, both informal and formal, in Fort Yukon and one in 43 Chalkyitsik and the working agreement, initially with the 44 Advisory Committee, was to focus on one community to use as a 45 pilot project. And that was discussed and finally the 46 Advisory Committee thought that was a reasonable idea and 47 eventually it got around to one community and that would be 48 Chalkyitsik.

49 50

Since that point, that decision was made, some more

dialogue and most recently what's happened is that the Fish and Game Advisory Committee member from Chalkyitsik, James Nathaniel, has been requested to approach the -- to bring this up as an agenda item with the Tribal Council there to see if there's sufficient support within that community to go ahead and devote the time and resources that it would take to come up with a pilot project.

8 9

We've already, through those series of discussions in the past year, there has been some certain legal guidelines and sideboards that restrict the State, you know, we only have so much flexibility. So the people in Chalkyitsik now have a rough idea of where we're headed, it's not exactly the way the proposal was originally submitted to the Board. So it's up to that community, at this time, whether they want to proceed with this to see if we can set up a community harvest reporting system that would sufficiently meet their needs.

All the details have not been worked out yet, there's still a lot more work to do.

20

21 If, for whatever reason, the Chalkyitsik Tribal 22 Council and that community decide that they're really not 23 interested then that's going to through it squarely back in 24 the lap of the Advisory Committee and we would then continue 25 the dialogue with them, to see how they wanted to proceed 26 from there. And the reason I say that is because it's not 27 real clear to us -- Chalkyitsik doesn't seem to be charging 28 ahead full speed right now and we think they have some 29 concerns, so I'm trying to do a little projection here into 30 the future, in the crystal ball here, but there's two ways it 31 could go, either Chalkyitsik will want to say, yeah, let's 32 give it at try to see if we can come up with a mutual 33 proposal that we can take to the Board of Game, which for the 34 Interior will be next year, a year from now, and then try to 35 implement it and monitor it and see how it works. Or, you 36 know, take some other tact.

37

38 So we haven't come up with anything definitive yet,
39 we don't even have a tentative proposal right now, but we do
40 have several alternatives or options for a proposal. It
41 hasn't been discussed so far, we looked at a few existing
42 State regulatory situations, I guess you could call them,
43 that provide a precedent or a template, I guess I could call
44 it, that might apply. I'm referring to a Copper River
45 fisheries harvest reporting system that we may be able to
46 borrow from.

47

But at any rate, we're still not there, but we're still working on it and since that proposal was originally for all the communities in the Yukon Flats, which is, you

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know, a sizable portion of your region that you deal with. The purpose of my bringing this to you is to keep you informed and just let you know. 3 4 MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman. 5 6 7 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead. 8 9 MR. GOOD: I'm just a little bit confused. 10 The role of the Advisory Committee, then, would be to report 11 harvest, subsistence harvest, is this what..... 12 13 MR. DAVID JAMES: No, it would not be the 14 Advisory Committee. There would have to be -- to this point 15 we're pretty certain, from the State's point of view, that 16 there would have to be a centralized data collection point, 17 somebody -- some entity responsible for collecting the 18 harvest data. The desire was to get away from the 19 restrictiveness of the typical, the standard seasons and bag 20 limits, although harvest quota was something that the 21 community could understand. And just the overall 22 administrative difficulty was something that was at the basis 23 of this proposal in the beginning. You know, the old 24 standard non-transferability of individual harvest tickets 25 and so on and so forth that is widely perceived as not being 26 very compatible with traditional practices of the village. 27 So the idea was let's see if we can find another system that 28 would work better and get better harvest report data as well. 29 It's a pretty ambitious undertaking, but not impossible and 30 we'll just see what happens here in the next year. 31 That's all I had on that. 32 33 MR. DAVEY JAMES: You're just talking about 34 35 the harvest quota pilot project that Fish and Game Advisory 36 Committee recommend to look into? Is that what you're 37 talking about, that harvest quota? 38 MR. DAVID JAMES: Yes, it started out as a 39 40 proposal last year at the Board meeting. 41 42 MR. DAVEY JAMES: What other villages in 43 Alaska did that community harvest quota? Was there another 44 community? 45 MR. DAVID JAMES: To my way of -- from what I 46 47 know about it, which is pretty limited, because I haven't 48 been involved in the details of this project, I don't -- it's

49 not clear to me if the harvest quota has been an integral 50 part of that, I think the focus elsewhere had been on the

00221 reporting mechanism itself. But the short answer is, I really don't know because I haven't had first hand experience with, you know, the involvement with this project. 4 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any other questions? 5 6 7 (No audible responses) 8 9 MR. DAVID JAMES: Thank you. 10 11 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Thank you. 12 13 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Mr. Chairman, that 14 brings us up to the Annual Report topic, if you're ready for 15 that. It's under Tab T for Tetlin. A couple of things I 16 need to point out there. I failed to put on that copy that's 17 in front of you and in the other books that this is a draft, 18 it's not a final. 19 20 And then one of the various subcommittee meetings we 21 had since the last meeting till present it was suggested to 22 me that a topic that is on the agenda about your co-23 management concept be added to the agenda -- added to the 24 Annual Report, excuse me. So I think we can do this in two Step one would be to review the draft Annual Report 26 before you and step two would be to talk about the suggestion 27 of adding the co-management concept that you had Board 28 support for, and the suggestion was to make that a statewide 29 standard. And then open it up to other suggestions for the 30 Annual Report. 31 Please realize, though, if there's other suggestions 32 33 to the Annual Report that you'll have to give up your review 34 to your Chair because there's not going to be time to get 35 copies out, unless we set time up, for that. We did it with 36 Western Interior, meaning if we develop a whole bunch of 37 other topics to add to this, I would incorporate them in 38 there, send them out, and you'd have to have comments back by 39 a certain time and then your Chair would have you authority 40 to sign off on the Annual report, because it will not before 41 you for another vote. This is pretty much a final, but it's 42 open for other topics. 43 44 Is that agreeable to go through existing -- the co-45 management and others? 46 47 (No audible responses) 48 49 MR. MATHEWS: Let the record reflect that

50 some heads went up and down and some didn't.

The topics that you have there are basically two topics and then, of course, a summary of your activities.

Topic number 1, you brought up at the Minto meeting, was concerns about the Land Protection Plans for refuges. And need to advise you the reason that you can comment on those plans and that is because in ANILCA, Title VIII, under Section 805 it says the Advisory Regional Councils can comment on management plans, et cetera. So just so you understand that.

10

This is a draft that was worked out with the person 12 who was the main mover of the subject and what I took from 13 the transcript. So if you want to look at that, if you have 14 questions we can go from there.

15

16 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any comments on the Annual 17 Report?

18

19 MR. FLEENER: Yeah, I got a couple of ideas

20 to put in.

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CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay.

2324

MR. GOOD: Go for it.

25

26 MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair, something that --27 there are a couple of things that I'd like to see added. 28 thing in particular that Council, as well as other Councils, 29 have been concerned about are low numbers of resources for 30 subsistence users. And time and time again we come across 31 proposals that address the ongoing need or unmet need of 32 subsistence users and somehow I'd like to reflect in the 33 Annual Report our interest, possibly, in intensive management 34 of resources with low numbers. And I don't know a better way 35 to put it, but that we think that which ever agency is in 36 charge of this specific area should be involved in 37 intensively managing those resources to continue to provide 38 the subsistence needs of the communities. And instead of us 39 having to think about always cutting back on harvest, you 40 know, maybe we can start increasing harvest so people's needs 41 can be met. I think that would be a good addition.

42

Another one is that -- we've also discussed this in
the past and this has been of particular interest to me that
local Councils, people that live within specific wildlife
refuges have more public involvement, such as the SRCs do
think it would be good if we have something
like an SRC for the wildlife refuges and possibly the other
land management entities as well, but I'm just specifically
speaking for the wildlife refuge because Fort Yukon is in a

wildlife refuge and neighbors another wildlife refuge and I
think that more local input into the management of those
areas would be good.

4 5

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead.

6 7

MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, I understand the 8 intensive management option and then some kind of advisory group. The intensive management option -- I don't want to 10 debate it, that's not my point here, I just want to inform 11 you that the information that I understand, and there's 12 others here that may be able to help, but still it could be 13 in the annual report, is, if I understand the Federal 14 Subsistence Board is an allocation board, not a management 15 board, and I hope someone else helps me out with this policy, 16 but I think the program is to provide protection that's in 17 ANILCA for subsistence uses and not management. I know the 18 reaction from the Council members on that, you can't have the 19 chicken without the egg, but I'm letting you know now that 20 intensive management may not be within the authority of the 21 Board. And maybe others here could address my reservation on 22 that.

23

MR. FLEENER: I think what you're saying may 25 have some validity, but I know that we've made other 26 suggestions that -- where we saw some results. We said that 27 we would like to see something done with the low numbers of 28 moose and predators in the Yukon Flats and the Yukon Flats 29 Wildlife Refuge is doing a study on predation on calf moose 30 and other moose. And so I think that our suggestion -- if we 31 don't make a suggestion....

32

MR. MATHEWS: Right.

33 34

MR. FLEENER:nothing is going to
36 happen, if we do make a suggestion something might happen.
37 And I know that the refuges are concerned with that. At
38 least I know the Yukon Flats Refuge is concerned about the
39 low moose numbers, they've said so themselves. And so this
40 is a way of getting something in the Annual Report saying we
41 also are concerned and we'd like to see something done.

42

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead.

43 44

MS. DETWILER: Sue Detwiler from the
46 Subsistence Office in Anchorage, and Craig and Vince are both
47 right on track. The Federal Subsistence Board only deals
48 with taking of fish and wildlife, they only deal with seasons
49 and bag limits and methods and means and that sort of thing
50 because of the specific language in Section 805 under which

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they operate. But Title VIII, as a whole, gives these Regional Councils broad latitude in making comments on -- and suggestions to the Federal agencies on subsistence uses, so your comment about directing your recommendations to the specific land management agency is right on track.

6 7

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Philip.

8

9 MR. P. TITUS: So they can set seasons and 10 bag limits whether there's resource or not?

11 12

MS. DETWILER: When the Federal Subsistence
13 Board was given the responsibility for taking over the
14 portion of Title VIII that the State lost, it only got the
15 authority to manage the taking of fish and wildlife, so it
16 doesn't deal with habitat management or predator management
17 or anything other than taking of fish and wildlife for
18 subsistence uses. And that has been the policy of the Board
19 ever since its been established has only to deal with taking
20 to meet subsistence needs.

21 22

CHAIRMAN MILLER: You got something, Ida?

23

MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff
25 Committee member. I believe this was brought up in the July
26 Board meeting in about 1994. And I just wanted to remind
27 this Council, as I reminded the Board, the Federal
28 Subsistence Board is made up of the Directors of the five
29 Federal agencies plus the appointment by the Secretary of the
30 Interior of Mitch Demientieff to make a six person Federal
31 Subsistence Board. Those five agency heads were appointed or
32 assigned the additional responsibility of being the Federal
33 Subsistence Board specifically and solely because they are
34 the managers of the agencies that you wish to make
35 recommendations to. Therefore, it is there responsibility
36 and duty to hear your recommendations and to so act within
37 their individual agencies.

38 39

It is also the duty of this Council to make 40 recommendations to the Federal Board and, thereby, to make 41 recommendations to those agencies who manage lands within 42 your respective areas. And I take that responsibility very 43 seriously and I challenge the Federal Board on those topics.

44

In addition, there have been many Councils that are 46 concerned about predators and habitat. There are Councils 47 who argue that under Section 805 there is responsibility to 48 be concerned about those.

49 50

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Thank you. 2 3 MR. DAVEY JAMES: May I as a question? 4 5 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead. 6 7 MR. DAVEY JAMES: My question, I quess, is directed to you, Sue. Just a comment that I'd like to make. 9 You said the Federal fisheries management set the allocations 10 for fisheries for subsistence on the rivers. And just --11 it's just a comment I want to make to you. That's -- for our 12 subsistence purpose along the river, that's was our main 13 concern. And a representative that can comment on that, 14 Steven Ginnes (ph), that was his main concern on that -- on 15 this other organization that he'd been sitting on is that the 16 people were given fair allocations and the system is not set 17 up to treat other people along the river, that's a long 2,000 18 mile river, fairly and that's one of our main concerns of the 19 Upper Yukon anyway. 20 21 Thank you. 22 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Vince. 23 24 25 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, then I would take 26 that the Council is in agreement to add this intensive 27 management option and the suggestion to have some kind of 28 resource commission established for other conservation units 29 is in the Annual Report? 30 31 (No audible responses) 32 33 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Let the record reflect 34 that that's the direction that we're going forward with the 35 Annual Report. 36 37 The other one we were going to -- well, we need to go 38 into the next one, I'm sorry. The next topic there is 39 Regional Council compensation. You can look that over, if it 40 captures you feelings on that. 41 42 You also received a letter, if you do need to see 43 that, also from Western Interior that requested Secretary 44 Babbitt revisit the decision not to grant any compensation 45 for Regional Council members, you have a copy in your book. 46 These mirror that, so please look that over and if the wishes 47 are that that's correct, whoever is the representative to the 48 joint Chairs meeting before the Federal Subsistence Board in 49 May is going to have to champion this and work -- I would 50 suggest work with Western Interior on this, to get support

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1 from the other Councils.

2

Since I'm the coordinator for Western Interior, I can inform you that Northwest and North Slope Regional Councils supported Western Interior's letter that Secretary Babbitt revisit the whole issue of compensation. But, again, the chairs are going to have to, when they meet in May, stand together on this, or however they want to stand, but if they want it to pass they'll have to stand together and discuss with the Board when they meet in executive session with the Board.

12

And I also need to refer -- make it clear to you that the answer from the Secretary has been no. There is no indication from Washington that that decision will change, so I don't want to mislead you. I have a dual role here of covering the agency and then covering your interests.

There's no indication from Washington that that decision will change or any latitude in that decision, but I know it's a concern to you and to Western Interior, the compensation, so there's wording that I've come up with, see if that meets your needs.

23 24

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead, Lincoln.

25

MR. L. TRITT: Yeah, I'm looking -- I see
27 this word "volunteer citizens" on there. I remember when I
28 worked with BIA in the '70s, when we get a grant from D.C. or
29 money from there, they get their cuts in Washington -- in
30 their office down there and then they sent it to their
31 subregion in Seattle and they take their cuts and then
32 Fairbanks and Anchorage takes their cuts and by the time they
33 get down to the village they're asking for volunteers, you
34 know. It just seems like this is the same process they're
35 going through.

36

37 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Is there any other

38 comments?

39

40 MR. FLEENER: Is this going to be as it 41 stands if it's accepted, going to be sent?

42 43

MR. MATHEWS: Yes.

44

MR. FLEENER: There's a misspelled word,

46 I....

47

48 MR. MATHEWS: Oh, no. Where is that word?

49

MR. FLEENER: Fifth line down "Regional

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Council workload has not lessened."
                   MR. MATHEWS: And it's not lessened. Where
3
4
  is it misspelled?
5
6
                   MR. FLEENER: Well, it's either has not
7
  lessened or....
8
9
                  MR. MATHEWS: Okay, we can work on that, if
10 you can....
11
12
                   MR. FLEENER: Anyways.....
13
           (Pause)
14
15
                   MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman, in the absence of
16
17 further discussion, I move that our Chairman, yourself, work
18 with Vince Mathews to complete the Annual Report and have it
19 submitted at a proper time.
20
21
                   MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Then we still
22 (indiscernible - away from microphone) co-management concept
23 that was just passed out to you, so I think (indiscernible -
24 away from microphone) within regional compensation section
25 captures your intent.
26
27
           Okay, because the remaining one is the co-management
28 concept and that's the yellow sheet that was just passed out
29 to you. I can't come up with the exact wording, but
30 basically the Federal Subsistence Board applauded your
31 concept and wanted to keep informed as to how it progressed
32 or how it was going to be utilized. That they support the
33 co-management concept that you drafted and approved on
34 February 19th, 1998. One of your subcommittees suggested
35 that that may or should be a statewide co-management concept
36 and I don't know if you want to push for statewide. Right
37 now the Board approved it for Eastern Interior.
                                                    So I just
38 had it noted down here that that was a topic.
39
40
           And for the new members, this was extensive work on
41 your part, there was a co-management group that formed, we
42 had several drafts of this, it gives a frame work that if we
43 get into a co-management situation that this starts the, what
44 I consider, a catalyst process to start the co-management
45 going together. It doesn't mean that the Regional Council
46 would be the co-management group. It would start a process
47 to get it going.
48
49
          In a nutshell, that's what that yellow handout is
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50 saying. And the Board was receptive to it. And if you need

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to, I can get the exact language, it's in my -- it's one of the boxes I have that has the letter from the Federal 3 Subsistence Board.

4 5

MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair, I don't know if we 6 would need to suggest to the other Councils that they need to adopt this, but maybe we could, at least, put it out there 8 for the other Councils to review and if they still wish to adopt it, then it wouldn't hurt our feelings.

9 10 11

7

MR. MATHEWS: Okay.

12

MR. FLEENER: And we wouldn't want to impose 13 14 something on someone, but I think this is a good idea and 15 it's worth looking at.

16

17 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Then if I understand it, 18 a letter should go out with this attached to the Chairs of 19 the remaining nine Councils for their acceptance and 20 petitioning the Board. Okay.

21

22 MR. FLEENER: And we'd also like -- if they 23 are going to look at it, there probably would be some 24 amendments we would -- I'd like to for this Council to take a 25 look at those amendments and see if there's ways to improve 26 this. I'm sure it's not going to be etched in stone that 27 it's going to be a living document.

28 29

MR. MATHEWS: Okay. There's only one other 30 topic and I don't know if it wants to go in here or not, but 31 I think we're running out of time. It's been discussed, the 32 regulations book, which I don't have in front of me, the 33 yellow that you've been looking at, has art work on it and 34 the art work has not changed over the years and so there's 35 been a suggestion by one of your Council members to maybe 36 develop -- it's the reg book, not the book that you have 37 there, it's the actual regulation book, to have somewhat of 38 an art contest to solicit other art work.

39

40 So maybe the person who suggested this idea may want 41 to bring it up to you to have someway of changing the cover 42 of the book and having it more reflective of all the 43 different cultures that are in Alaska.

44

MR. FLEENER: Yes, Mr. Chair, I talked to 46 Vince about this a while ago, I thought it would be a nice 47 idea if we had some change to our book and I suggested a 48 contest and I'm not exactly sure how we would work this 49 contest out, but I thought that something new to recognize 50 the other Native cultures and other cultures in Alaska would

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1 be timely, since this has been on the cover for, I don't
2 know, how many years, eight or so?
3
4
                  MR. MATHEWS: No, it's been three or four
5 when I looked into it.
6
7
                  MR. FLEENER: It's been on there quite a few
8 years and I just though it's time for a change.
9 letter somewhere, I don't know, did the letter ever get....
10
11
                  MR. MATHEWS: Yeah, we worked out a letter
12 and there was -- it's just a draft form of a suggestion that
13 this contest would happen and then when the joint Chairs meet
14 then they would select the art work for the next year. And
15 there would have to be some guidelines, all that kind of
16 stuff would have to be worked out, but basically it would
17 be....
18
19
                  MR. FLEENER: Yeah, we discussed that
20 possibly the winner of the -- whoever drew it, drew the one
21 that was elected could win some sort of something. That was
22 also a discussion topic and we don't know.....
23
24
                  CHAIRMAN MILLER: Give them a free moose,
25 huh?
26
27
                  MR. FLEENER: Free moose. A free bison
28 permit. No, we discussed some alternatives but we don't know
29 if there would be money available or not, but those are
30 alternatives that we discussed.
31
32
                  MR. P. TITUS: (Indiscernible - away from
33 microphone)
34
35
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: So this is going to go into
36 the Annual Report?
37
38
                   MR. MATHEWS: Well, it could or it could go
39 in a separate letter, that's why I was hesitant to bring it
40 up now. It similar to the.....
41
42
                  MR. FLEENER: I don't think it needs to go
43 into the Annual Report, because that goes to the Secretary of
44 the Interior and Agriculture, right?
45
                  MR. MATHEWS: Right. They -- he signs all
46
47 the checks for the whole program, so I don't know. I mean,
48 you know, it's -- the Annual Report picks up on topics that
49 fall outside your normal process, this kind of -- it doesn't
50 have to be in there, no. I just know that once we get this
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  done the momentum to adjourn is going to be quite strong
3
4
                   MR. FLEENER: Let's stick it in there, then,
5
  since he's the purse bearer.
6
7
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead.
8
9
                   MR. L. TRITT: I mean, I just want to ask if
10 it's all right to see if Fish and Wildlife can take the
11 initiative, since this would probably benefit them, you know.
12 Because it would be like an offer at least. And if we
13 insisted it like we're demanding something, you know. It's
14 like a good gesture or something.
15
                  MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman.
16
17
18
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Nat.
19
20
                  MR. GOOD: I'd like to suggest that a letter
21 would be very good as well, so it doesn't get buried in our
22 report. I think sometimes things can get overlooked, I like
23 the idea of the letter, too.
24
25
                   MR. MATHEWS: So the letter from the Chair
26 would go to the program, not to the Board, to see if this
27 could be allowed, correct? To Tom Boyd who was here on
28 Saturday, and not to the Board, correct?
29
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: That's fine.
30
31
32
                   MR. MATHEWS: Okay, everyone's head is
33 nodding on that, so the -- that will go forward.
34
35
           That's all the topics that I knew of for the Annual
36 Report, so.....
37
38
                   MR. DAVEY JAMES: Can I go back to this co-
39 management concept proposals because, you know, I'm new on
40 this Council here, Craig, and I don't see nothing wrong with
41 this co-management concept proposals and what I want to know
42 is where are we going in here with it? I mean, what's the
43 schedule for the next year, what are we looking at? I mean,
44 how can I -- you know, because I'm going to -- I have a
45 series of about three workshops with my resources and the
46 tribal people in 10 villages a year and I got to present this
47 to them, but I kind of need a little -- you know, somebody's
48 support -- how I'm going to present this to the resources of
49 the villages.
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MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chairman, maybe I could
address that a little bit. This basically is a concept that
we worked on, basically telling the Fish and Wildlife Service
and other agencies that we support co-management. It's
basically an idea that brings out some of the major issues of
co-management that -- written in a way that we see as
important. There are various concepts in here that didn't
come from other people, and that's been a problem in the
past, that other people have been telling us what comanagement is and with this, we sat down and said these are
some things that we think belong in a co-management agreement
or a way that we formulate co-management.

13

And so this is basically a concept, maybe a frame
work for possible future co-management agreements. And
that's really all it is and we can use it, if we need to. If
somebody says, hey, let's do a co-management agreement, we
can look at this and say -- or somebody else can look at this
and say, okay, this is what they mean when they say comanagement, you know. Because when we go to meetings
nowadays everybody smiles real hard and says, let's comanage, but everybody means something different. And now
when Eastern Interior says, let's co-manage, you know, this
a frame work by what we mean by co-manage.

25

26 MR. DAVEY JAMES: Yeah. My other issue is I 27 really like this process that's going through, you know, 28 setting up a co-management, setting a management forum. 29 we another couple of entities that came, too, that saying 30 that they would agree to recognize body for the management of 31 certain of the river, like the whole Yukon River, and they 32 just present a resolution and a representative signs on to it 33 there and now, we're giving our authority to management to a 34 body without that information going back to the village and 35 having a process of getting the community aware of what's 36 going on. And here one person that represents a whole region 37 can sign on to a resolution given the authority of management 38 to an organization. And this is the process that you guys 39 are going through, you know, I like it, you know. I mean, 40 you guys are not rushing things through, you guys are 41 explaining things good and kind of open the door of 42 opportunity for other, whether it's tribal people or 43 community, to address the issue later.

44 45

Thank you.

46

47 MR. FLEENER: That's pretty much it, I

48 mean....

49 50

CHAIRMAN MILLER: You guys want to take a

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break?
3
                   MR. MATHEWS: No, we need some kind of
4 agreement here that the Annual Report is accepted as this
5 with edits. What Nat said earlier where I cut him off.
6 would make record cleaner that it's clear on the record that
7 you support the draft that in here and.....
8
                   MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion
9
10 to adopt the draft that's in here with the suggested
11 additions.
12
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Is there a second?
13
14
15
                   MR. GOOD: I'll second.
16
17
                   MR. FLEENER: Question.
18
19
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Question had been called.
20 All in favor signify by saying aye.
21
22
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
23
24
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Opposed same sign.
25
          (No opposing responses)
26
27
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Now, do you want to take a
2.8
29 break?
30
31
           (Off record - 2:33 p.m.)
32
33
           (On record - 2:49 p.m.)
34
35
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Call the meeting back to
36 order.
37
38
                   MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, what we have left
39 on the agenda are correspondence sent and received and I was
40 incorrect when I talked to you in private, there are brief
41 agency reports and then future meeting plans are the only
42 items that I see left on the agenda.
43
44
           So correspondence sent and received is very short
45 because your direction to me was that any time correspondence
46 comes it is to sent copies out immediately.
47
48
           Under Tab V, as in Venetie, is a summary of all the
49 correspondence sent and received. If Council members or
50 public or staff would like to see copies of that
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correspondence sent and received there's a book up here with all of it in it, so I would like the record to reflect that they have a listing of all the correspondence received and sent. So you may want to look at Tab V and if you have any questions specifically about that correspondence, but you did receive them in the mail.

7 8

(Pause)

9

MR. MATHEWS: Okay. And then I think if 11 there is questions you can talk to us private and we'll move 12 on to agency reports.

13 14

MR. DAVEY JAMES: I have a question.

15 16

MR. MATHEWS: Sure.

17

MR. DAVEY JAMES: Yeah, my question is on 19 these proposals with Stevens Village side, I don't know if I 20 heard it right yesterday that there was two different kind of 21 proposals and their proposals weren't the right one given 22 and, you know, I'm concerned that the letter that I received 23 back home (indiscernible - away from microphone) concern that 24 that original proposal that they submitted was a different 25 one than the one that one that was in the regulations book 26 there.

27 28

If a proposal is submitted, it's given to you, huh?

29 It goes through your office and it goes down -- but how does

30 the process work kind of though?

31 32

MR. MATHEWS: Okay. The process is basically there's an open proposal period and people submit proposals during that time. They can submit them to our office, where George and I are at, or they can be submitted to Anchorage.

36

The proposal in question was submitted to the
Anchorage office. Once they're received they're logged in
with a document number for tracking purposes and then from
there the proposal is, I'm looking for the right term,
translated into a regulatory proposal. In that translation
language was left out. The language that was left out in the
Stevens Village proposal was dealing with cultural events.

44

There was other proposals submitted by one of your 46 Council members, also, that was translated with materials 47 left out, but we were able to catch that before we went to 48 publication of the book. That's the process that is used, so 49 it is a little bit different since I used to work with the 50 State system, Board of Fisheries, Board of Game, so it is

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1 different than their process.

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MR. DAVEY JAMES: Maybe for future you call the original people that presented the proposal and be a courtesy that you call them that you're changing their words or if you happen to lose something you can contact them, so they be informed of it.

7 8 9

MR. MATHEWS: Davey, that....

10

MR. DAVEY JAMES: Kind of do that in style, I 12 mean, to have a courtesy call and call them up or see if you 13 can't work with them, you know, on changing wordings, you 14 know, letting them know so these kind of issues -- you know, 15 more like this one here kind of got out of hand, you know, I 16 receive a letter saying that's not proposal that they 17 presented, you know, so it's kind tough, you know, what 18 proposal are we really looking at. So I think that's 19 something that you need to....

20

21 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman. That's an 22 excellent suggestion, Davey. I would also think that the 23 best avenue to get that information to the process -- through 24 the process would be either the Annual Report or in a 25 separate letter. I'd also request, as your coordinator, that 26 your team be given copies of the original proposals when they 27 come in. That's the only way I caught a couple of them, I 28 happened -- the proposals happened to come through my fax 29 machine and then when I reviewed the book before published 30 [sic], they didn't match. It hobbles the team to find out as 31 we analyze proposals that there was different topics in 32 there, different -- so I would suggest either a separate 33 letter or part of the Annual Report, but Davey said that any 34 changes in the proposal that's being submitted, any word 35 changes, that a courtesy call be given to the author of the 36 proposal. But I'd also add that original copies of the 37 proposal, as submitted, be provided to the team.

38

MR. FLEENER: I think that's a good idea, Mr. 40 Chair and I'd also like to convey my concerns that when you 41 make so many changes that the author doesn't even recognize 42 the proposal, I think that's carrying it a little too far. A 43 few word changes that may help the sound better is okay, but 44 when you go about changing the substance and leaving words 45 out that may make it easier to pass, that don't incorporate 46 the true meaning of what the author had in mind is -- that's 47 really pretty distasteful I would say here.

48

I think it would be worth putting it in the Annual Report to let people higher up know that we don't like the

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  idea of proposal being put in the proposal book that weren't
2 written by the author. The proposal comes to the Fish and
3 Wildlife Service it should be what the person wanted changed.
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                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Lincoln.
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7
                  MR. L. TRITT: Yeah, I'm a writer, I do a lot
8 of writing and a lot of people tell me I have my own language
9 because I had an experience early in my -- when I first
10 started writing I had somebody edit my story and they got at
11 it with the proper grammar stuff and they changed the whole
12 meaning around. And so when somebody edits my work I limit
13 them to the commas and capitals, that's about it, I keep them
14 away from the words because we speak differently than what
15 you read in the books and stuff. I think that's a good idea.
16
17
                  MR. MATHEWS: So is that the wishes of the
18 Council, then, to have that part of the Annual Report?
19
20
                  CHAIRMAN MILLER: I think you can add that,
21 yeah.
22
                  MR. MATHEWS: Okay. So that'll go within the
23
24 motion that was earlier, to add on this, okay.
25
          Anything else under correspondence sent and received?
26
27
                  MR. FLEENER: Can I ask another question, Mr.
28
29 Chair?
30
31
                  CHAIRMAN MILLER: Go ahead.
32
33
                  MR. FLEENER: When the proposal come through,
34 they're not routed through your office; is that correct?
35
                  MR. MATHEWS: Correct.
36
37
38
                  MR. FLEENER: You don't see them until staff
39 analysis is done?
40
41
                  MR. MATHEWS: No, that's not correct.
42
                  MR. SHERROD: Procedure in the book
43
44 (indiscernible - away from microphone)
45
                  MR. FLEENER: So you don't see it for quite a
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MR. MATHEWS: Well, I personally work real

50 hard to get them, original copies, but it's difficult from

47 while then?

48

00236 Fairbanks to pull that off. 2 3 MR. FLEENER: Well, I would suggest then 4 another letter because you're our main conduit to these 5 proposals that are coming in and I would suggest that we send 6 a letter saying a copy should go to your group there, so that 7 we can be made aware of proposals that are important, which 8 all proposals are important, before a changed version of it 9 comes down. I would suggest that as a letter, not in the 10 Annual Report, but a letter from us to the Fish and Wildlife 11 Service, to the Subsistence. 12 13 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. I understand that the 14 Annual Report will be the courtesy language, integrity and 15 the second one would be a letter that a copy of the original 16 be provided to the team. 17 18 MR. FLEENER: That's correct. 19 20 MR. MATHEWS: All right. 21 22 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any more questions? 23 24 (No audible responses) 25 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay. Agency reports. 26 27 MR. MATHEWS: All right. The agency reports 28 29 are listed there, the first would be if there's any Native 30 corporation, Tribal Council, et cetera, that would like to 31 speak. I don't see anyone here for that. 32 33 The next would be the National Park Service, and I'm 34 not going to go into each unit. If there is a park that 35 would like to speak they should come up, otherwise I'll 36 forget somebody. I believe Wrangell did have something to 37 present, I don't know if the others do. And that's Wrangell-38 St. Elias. I know it's getting late, but that's not fair to 39 truncate the name. 40 41 MS. SHARP: My name is Devi Sharp, I'm from 42 Wrangell-St. Elias. Thank you, Chair and Council members to

43 make time. I want to invite you all to the SRC meeting April 44 20th and 21 at Dot Lake, you're welcome to join us.

45

We have recently included Dot Lake, Tanacross, Tetlin 46 47 and Northway to our resident zoned communities, the final 48 regulations have not been finalized, but the environmental 49 compliance work had been done, approved, signed, sealed and 50 delivered, no problems with that.

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Healy Lake has also requested that same status, resident zone status. Don Callaway and Janice are working on that and thank you for your help on that this past week.

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Cordova has also requested resident zoned status and Janice and some other staff from Wrangell and myself will be going to Cordova to listen to their testimony in a few weeks.

7 8

9 And that's all I have. Any questions about going ons 10 in the park?

11

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Thank you.

12 13

MR. MATHEWS: I think Denali National Park 15 may have something to share.

16

MR. TWITCHELL: Hollis Twitchell, Denali.
18 I'll be brief. The main thing we're doing at Denali with our
19 Commission is work on our Subsistence Management Plan. Our
20 next meeting is August 6th, it'll be held in McKinley Village
21 and that meeting will be totally devoted to going through
22 that plan with the Commission and developing it.

23

The only thing that I brought with me today is a copy of the Subsistence User Guide. The Commission asks that we develop and work with them in a guide that would be more user friendly in terms of giving out to our subsistence users to help them understand the Federal programs and what they can and can't do on park lands. It's still coming towards its final draft stage. If you're interested in receiving a copy of this, at this point, I'll go ahead and leave them over here by the door and you can pick them up on your way out. Again, this is directed for us to develop this by the Commission for use by subsistence users, is our target group.

35

Beyond that, unless you have a particular issue with 37 Denali you want to discuss, I'll say thank you.

38 39

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Thank you.

40

MR. MATHEWS: I don't think there's any other 42 Park Service that would like to speak, so that would bring us 43 up to Bureau of Land Management, if they wanted to speak, I 44 don't know.

45

MS. GRONQUIST: Ruth Gronquist with the 47 Bureau of Land Management and I promised Philip I wouldn't 48 say anything, but I'm going to offer you the opportunity to 49 ask questions, if you have them.

00238 The only thing I can think of that we really haven't 1 2 addressed through the rest of the meeting, the concerns that 3 we might have brought to you is with fisheries we are, at 4 BLM, looking developing -- or looking at the fisheries 5 program and looking at what we might need to do to implement 6 it as an agency. So if you have any questions. 7 8 MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chairman. 9 10 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yeah. 11 12 MR. FLEENER: So BLM is not much interested 13 in wildlife management, but very interested in fisheries 14 management? 15 MS. GRONQUIST: I didn't say that. I just --16 17 I was just giving you a heads up that with the potential for 18 having some fisheries responsibility we are starting to look 19 at what that would -- what would be required of us as an 20 agency. But, no, everything that I would have said to you 21 from a wildlife perspective has already been said, either 22 Craig Gardner has covered it or we covered it through the 23 proposals. 24 25 So any other questions? 26 27 MR. DAVEY JAMES: Ruth, I got a question 28 here. Is the pipeline corridor, is that a BLM oversight by 29 your department? 30 31 MS. GRONQUIST: By our agency, yes. 32 33 MR. DAVEY JAMES: By your agency. There's a 34 little strip that goes over toward Venetie and also there's 35 White Mountain -- or Steese National Conservation Area, how --36 what is kind of the process -- I mean, is that going into, I 37 quess, a recreational development there or economic 38 development, how do you guys coordinate with the nearest 39 communities that work with you, the input. Do you guys send 40 them the input -- like if the DOT wanted to build a road from 41 the pipeline down into (indiscernible - away from microphone) 42 area on BLM land there, what's the process do they go 43 through, I mean, how do (indiscernible - away from 44 microphone) do you guys send out notices to these villages 45 or.... 46 47 MS. GRONQUIST: Well, using your example,

MS. GRONQUIST: Well, using your example, 48 what we would have to do on something like that is go through 49 a NEPA process and that would open it up to the public, that 50 would require public meetings in every area that would be

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  affected by a project like that, just to use your example.
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                   MR. DAVEY JAMES: Is that the same thing with
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  this White Mountain National Recreational Area?
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                   MS. GRONQUIST: Yes.
7
8
                  MR. DAVEY JAMES: I mean there's a proposed
  trail, a road and, you know, I don't know, I personally never
10 seen no information (indiscernible - away from microphone) or
11 the beaver, you know, because they're the people that, you
12 know (indiscernible - away from microphone)
13
14
                   MS. GRONQUIST: Yeah.
                                          If there's any land
15 use proposal, an application or a request for any sort of
16 land use in the Steese or the White Mountains, for example,
17 it depends on what level of an action we have to take. If it
18 triggers an environmental assessment we have a different --
19 we have fewer requirements through the Environmental Policy
20 Act to involve the public. So if a miner comes to use and
21 wants to have a mine that's over five acres or develop a mine
22 over five acres, there's a notice that goes out, but there
23 aren't public meetings held. Something as big as a road or
24 possibly a trail, depending on whether or not it was already
25 covered in another EIS, for example, would -- something of
26 that magnitude would probably go to an EIS and then there's
27 requirement for public input, for meetings in the areas
28 affected, and opportunities for comment. There still are
29 opportunities for comment within an Environmental Assessment.
30
31
                   MR. DAVEY JAMES: Maybe -- you know,
32 something that you might want to consider or look at is that,
33 you know, when you guys take comments that come from a
34 recognized body or a tribal or the village, I think you
35 really should -- that that comment is going to be on behalf
36 of the community or the tribe or the corporation. That letter
37 should be signed by all Council members (indiscernible - away
38 from microphone) because I think there's a few -- not in your
39 area, but there has been in the past agencies, different
40 agencies, recognizing the letter sent by the individual as
41 the president of the corporation as speaking on behalf of the
42 people, but that letter has been sent by that individual on
43 his behalf and never really came to the community or came
44 through the Council. And that's just like another process
45 that you need to go through. Just a process.
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                   MS. GRONQUIST: So more responsibility on the
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MR. DAVEY JAMES: Yeah.

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48 agency to make sure that they gotten thorough input?

00240 MS. GRONQUIST: Okay. 1 2 MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair, I think one area 3 that has been a big concern in Yukon Flats is the Nome Creek 5 Road and the -- I don't know if it's a picnic area or what, 6 but I know that there was a lot of people that were not satisfied with the amount of involvement by people in Yukon 7 8 Flats. And I know that's quite a ways from Fort Yukon, for 9 example, but a lot of people saw that as building an entryway 10 to get into Yukon Flats and, thereby, being able to impact 11 the subsistence resource, for example, and other things. 12 And, in that case, I know for -- that I heard an awful lot of 13 people dissatisfied about the amount of involvement from the 14 people in Yukon Flats. 15 MS. GRONQUIST: Yeah, and we've certainly 16 17 taken notice of -- we've gotten that loud and clear. 18 19 Anything else? 20 21 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Thank you. 22 23 MR. FLEENER: Thank you. 24 25 MS. GRONQUIST: Thank you. Sorry, Philip. 26 27 MR. MATHEWS: Okay, the next agency report 28 would be Fish and Wildlife Service. And I'll just quickly 29 grab the one topic that's there and then if the refuges have 30 anything to speak on. 31 You have under Tab W for Wrangell an update on the 32 33 Migratory Bird Treaty, and I'm not going to belabor that, 34 that's there before you and we'll keep you informed. 35 Probably at your next meeting you'll have a report on where 36 they're at in establishing their management bodies. So I'd 37 encourage you to look over that document and become familiar 38 with it on the status of the Migratory Bird Treaty, which has 39 been amended to allow spring waterfowl hunting. And I won't 40 go into more detail because you have it there and we'll be 41 keeping you updated on that. 42 43 So there may be a Yukon -- I don't know which on Greg 44 is going to speak for but.... 45

MR. McCLELLAN: Just to be real brief. My
47 name is Greg McClellan, Subsistence Coordinator for Yukon
48 Flats and Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. And also with the
49 Yukon Flats, we also have Refuge Manager, Ted Hugher (ph) and
50 Refuge Information Technician, Paul Williams able to answer

any questions you might have. But the things that I handed our are primarily follow-ups to some of the things we talked about at the Minto meeting.

4 5

We had quite a discussion on moose at the Minto
meeting on the Flats and just have an update. The first item
is an update on the moose calf mortality study that currently
we have 18 percent survival rate on the calves through
November. The second item is with the 30 Federal subsistence
moose permits the reported harvest to date. And the third
thing is that this spring we're going to be doing a moose
winter survey in conjunction with ADF&G to look at -- I guess
actually that's number 4. Cooperation with ADF&G and with
help from people in Stevens Village and look at where the
moose range, habitat in the Western Yukon Flats.

16

And then due to snow conditions we were not able to 18 do a moose population survey, we try to alternate that 19 between 24(D) West and 25(D) East every year and with the 20 snow conditions this last fall we weren't able to do it. We 21 were planning on doing 25(D) West, so that's just been 22 delayed another year and we'll do that this coming fall.

23

And that's it for the Flats report unless there's any questions.

26 27

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Yeah, go ahead.

28 29

MR. L. TRITT: Do you have any plans in the 30 future about cutting down on these collaring activities?

31 32

MR. McCLELLAN: Well, we felt that it was very important to get information on the mortality of moose alves due to the low moose population and so we felt that it was important to do this project. We know there are concerns with the local residents within the Flats as far as handling and marking animals and we are aware of that. We talk with the communities before doing these studies, but if there is an important study that does entail handling or collaring of animals -- you know, if there's a need to do it, then we do want to look at being able to do it. But currently we don't have -- on the Flats we don't have another immediate study proposal that would entail collaring animals.

44

MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair. You don't have 46 anything here on your black bear project, how is that going?

47

48 MR. McCLELLAN: Well, since the Minto meeting 49 there hasn't been any really follow-up on that study.

50 Currently we have five females that still have radio collars

00242 and the past three winters we -- with the collared females we checked the den sites and checked if they had cubs or not and 3 the biologist and the pilot are hoping to start doing that 4 this coming week to go out and check the dens, but we don't 5 have any more follow-up information since the Minto meeting. 6 7 MR. FLEENER: And as far as the moose calf 8 mortality study, what -- we got some pretty strong 9 preliminary results here of moose calf mortality.

10

MR. McCLELLAN: Uh-huh. 11

12

MR. FLEENER: I was wondering what does the 13 14 refuge plan to do with this information as management.

15

MR. McCLELLAN: Well, we still want to do one 16 17 more year of collaring the calves and get one more year of 18 data and see what it says and go from there. We've talked in 19 the past that we're interested in working with local 20 communities, especially in 25(D) West as far as trying to 21 develop a moose management plan. And then with -- as far as 22 black bears and grizzlies, I guess, you know, our first 23 option we'd like to do what we can through the regulatory 24 process and make the availability for local residents and 25 other subsistence users and hunters to harvest and utilize 26 them.

27

MR. FLEENER: And if you have 27 cows that 28 29 are still collared, do you plan on collaring additional ones 30 or just monitoring the same 27?

31

32 MR. McCLELLAN: At this time we don't have 33 any additional plans to collar any additional calves.

34

35 MR. FLEENER: So you'll monitor the calves 36 from these 27 cows?

37

38 MR. McCLELLAN: Right. And like last year 39 when we were out doing the collaring of the calves, we were 40 able to capture some of the -- some calves from uncollared 41 females and we still tried to do the same thing. The main 42 reason for collaring the cows initially is we felt it would 43 be easier to find the cow and then to find the calf, so.....

44

45 MR. FLEENER: And are the signals still going 46 to be strong enough after a year with the radio?

47

48 MR. McCLELLAN: Yeah, the collars on the cows 49 should last anywhere from three to five years.

00243 MR. FLEENER: That's all, thanks. 2 3 MR. DAVID JAMES: What happens to the collar after the battery runs out? It says on them or..... 5 6 MR. McCLELLAN: The -- on the calve they were 7 -- the life span of the calves they were made with an Ace 8 Bandage material and that would normally start to 9 disintegrate and just fall off after six months to a year's 10 time. Now, collars on the cows are made with the more 11 extensive leather material that over a long time period, 12 five, six, seven years it could break down and fall off, but 13 it's -- there's also a strong possibility that the collars on 14 the cows are going to last a long time and they may die of 15 natural causes with collar still on it or -- but the -- I 16 quess the collars for the calves are designed to, you know, 17 to fall off real soon. Collars on the cows, like I said, the 18 batteries can last three to five years, so they're designed 19 to at least last that five years. 20 21 Any other questions for the Flats? 22

MR. DAVEY JAMES: The International Caribou 24 Board, when they came across the census on the mortality of 25 the caribou herd there, they never really -- did the 26 discussion ever come out where the caribou dropped 27 tremendously the last four years and I was reading that, you 28 know, they didn't really have no answer for that. And there 29 was concern about the people as the Western and the Central 30 Herd being increased -- what it did, the Porcupine Caribou 31 Herd increased [sic] and the Slave Lake Caribou Herd over 32 there in Cantwell side increased. All the other herds 33 increased except the Porcupine Caribou Herd [sic] there, do 34 you know any reason why this the only herd in North America 35 and Canada that went down for the last four years?

36 37 MR. McCLELLAN: Yeah, at the meeting at the 38 International Porcupine Caribou Board meeting there was a 39 discussion on the reason for the decline and they don't have 40 any definite evidence, but the strong feeling was that there 41 was -- during the winters of, I believe, '92, '93, '94 were 42 pretty severe and there was poor calf production during those 43 years. And the last couple of years, last summer and '96 the 44 calf production have been built back up again and so they 45 felt that the decline was due to the poor years in, like I 46 said, '92, '93, '94 and the thought is that the herd numbers 47 should start increasing. They also -- the Board, since the 48 decline, there was also talk of trying to do another census 49 this coming summer to again see where the numbers are, see if 50 they're still down of if they did start to go up.

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                  MR. DAVEY JAMES: What do you mean four poor
2 year? You mean weather?
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4
                   MR. McCLELLAN: Yeah, severe winters.
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                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Lincoln.
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                   MR. L. TRITT: You guys go up to the coast a
  lot up there in the calving ground area?
9
10
                   MR. McCLELLAN: The refuge doesn't do as much
11
12 work up there as in the past, but they do do work up there
13 every year.
14
15
                   MR. L. TRITT: Yeah, because I afraid of any
16 activities out there just, you know, too much activities up
17 there just have a drastic effect on the caribou, less
18 caribou.
19
20
                  MR. McCLELLAN: Yeah, I mean during in the
21 actual calving time period the -- any work up there is very,
22 very limited during that time period when they're calving.
23
24
                   MR. L. TRITT: And there's also a lot of
25 tourism and, I mean, you know -- yeah, what do you call it,
26 eco-tourism and all that good stuff.
27
                   MR. McCLELLAN: Yeah, you know, though not in
28
29 the -- within the calving period at that time.
30
31
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Anything else? Any other
32 questions?
33
           (No audible responses)
34
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36
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Thank you.
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38
                   MR. McCLELLAN: Thank you.
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                   MR. MATHEWS: Okay, Mr. Chairman, that leaves
41 us with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. I don't
42 think Tetlin had a report. And so Alaska Department of Fish
43 and Game did want to -- they had a brief report.
44
45
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay.
46
47
                   MS. T. HAYNES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, this
48 will be very brief. First of all, we appreciate the
49 opportunity to participate in your Council meetings, it's a
50 learning experience for us each time we're here. We know
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that we sometimes disagree on views and positions, but it's a healthy debate and we learn from it, we hope that we can contribute to your understanding of some of our concerns along the way. So thank you for the opportunity to take part in these meetings.

6 7

I just wanted to introduce other Department staff who attended this meeting in case you may have some questions that we can direct to those staff. Polly Wheeler is the new Regional Program Manager for the Subsistence Division. She's responsible for the Arctic Interior and Western regions so she has a big chunk of the state that she oversees our research program. Many of you know Polly from her work with Tanana Chiefs Conference and other arenas, so we're glad to have her on board and help fill out our very small Subsistence Division staff.

17

Mike Doxey is with Sportfish Division in Fairbanks.

19 Fronty Parker is with Sportfish Division in Delta Junction.

20 Bill Busher is with Commercial Fisheries Division in

21 Fairbanks and David James is with Wildlife Conservation

22 Division in Fairbanks. Steve DuBois, who is the area

23 biologist for Wildlife Conservation Division in Delta

24 Junction was here earlier and, of course, Craig Gardener the

25 area biologist from Tok was here yesterday. We try to make

26 sure we have as many staff here at these meetings as

27 possible, but we're having some budgetary issues that affect

28 some of our travel these days, so -- but nevertheless, we

29 think these meetings are important. The Commissioner thinks

30 they're important and we're doing the best we can to make

32

31 sure we have coverage here.

33 So unless you have any questions, that's all we have 34 to say.

35

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Any questions?

36 37

MS. T. HAYNES: Thank you.

38 39

CHAIRMAN MILLER: Thank you.

40 41

MR. MATHEWS: Okay, unless there's some other 43 agency that has a report, we're on to looking at the next 44 meeting.

45

MR. DAVEY JAMES: Yeah, Mr. Chair, I'd like 47 to give a little report on CATG (indiscernible - away from 48 microphone) the Natural Resource Department and I can do it 49 from here, huh?

MR. MATHEWS: You can do it from there, it's 1 2 not.... 3 MR. DAVEY JAMES: You know I work as the 4 5 Director for the 10 tribal villages within the Yukon Flats, 6 the Gwit'chin and Koyukon (ph) area within the Yukon Flats. 7 And there's two Koyukon Villages, Stevens Village and

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8 Rampart, the rest is the Gwit'chins. We have resource 9 departments, our natural resource staff in each village and 10 each of these villages have an environmental program through 11 EPA, through GAP Program and they also have a part-time 12 natural resource staff on board there. We are -- we have two

13 to three meetings a year that goes on within this area.

14

We're looking at all the resources that's out there, 15 16 what's the numbers out there and what's Fish and Game is 17 doing and Fish and Wildlife and, you know -- two or three of 18 the main top priorities we have identified, the ecosystems, 19 the muskrats is disappearing and the low population of the 20 moose. And we're working on maybe on having cooperative 21 agreements or working groups with the Fish and Wildlife and 22 the Feds there on trying to get our population from 2,300 up 23 to 5,000, a reasonable number.

We're also working on the fishery issues. People --26 subsistence people along the -- within the Yukon Flats has 27 really been affected this fall there, because we only catch --28 just to give you a quick outline. People, you know, in the 29 Yukon Flats don't get that much fish and there's no 30 commercial people in the Yukon there and we really have a big 31 concern with the negotiation that's going on with the Yukon 32 Panel and the Canadians. The majority of our fish there are 33 Canadian stocks, so we really have to be in on the decision 34 there.

36 And so that's another issue that we're going to be 37 taking up this coming Tuesday during our teleconference. We 38 have a monthly teleconference with all our resources here and 39 we have -- we're just in the beginning stage of our GIS 40 program there, we have a person who's full time working on 41 this and our people -- we're really -- we're working on an 42 environmental and natural resources code and ordinance. 43 going through -- right now we got three villages that's going 44 to present a couple of code and ordinance that they're going 45 to present to the community and then they're going through 46 and give it to the -- to the annual meeting whenever and the 47 different times of the year.

And we're really concerned about the conservation 49 50 enforcement that happened up there this fall where one of our local person barely have to be -- he left his home place, four miles from Fort Yukon, because he was constantly being harassed by the State Fish and Game Enforcement Division and they were sad to see that, he had to leave his home spot to move back to Fort Yukon until they leave. Poor guy could barely even live off the land. And that's a big problem within that issue right there that we would like to address more in the future.

9

We're in the beginning stage of working on our water program. We have a large air quality program, indoor and outdoor quality air program, in place there. We have a full time biologist that's working with us. Her name is Trisha, she's the on that was (indiscernible) I don't know where she's at. But we're really interested inviting anybody that's out there -- we're going to have this summer, we're working on having a two-day workshop in one of these fish camps and a lot of our youth and elders will be there. It would be a good time for any of you staff or managers or any interested people that want to come -- it's going to be this summer sometime during the fishing season. And decided at the beaver meeting we decided to have it along -- in one of these fish camps there.

24 25

We're going to -- for one day we're going to go up to 26 the Village of Circle, 17 miles up river, there's one of our 27 last great chiefs, his name is Chin'atchee (ph), he had 16 28 wives and this was just the beginning of 1800s where he 29 brought our people together and pay our respects to him there 30 and work on keeping that graveyard and that designated site 31 as sacred site.

32

And then my uncle, David Sams, has wroten [sic] a 34 book about our people, where we came from back to 16-1500s 35 and that will really -- that would be a book that I recommend 36 for all you managers to look at of where we came from and how 37 we still live in our area, so you guys would really have an 38 idea of where we -- how we came about here.

39

And if any of you guys want any information, contact 41 me there, we have our main office -- we have our own building 42 in Fort Yukon, so when you guys come to Fort Yukon, come by 43 and visit any time. Thank you.

44

MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Are there any other 46 agency reports?

47 48

(No audible responses)

49

MR. MATHEWS: Okay. If not, then we move on

```
00248
  to selecting time, date and location for the next meeting,
  and I'll turn on the overhead on that.
3
4
                  MR. NICHOLIA: I suggest we do the 14th
5
  and....
6
7
                  MR. FLEENER: Weekend.
8
9
                   MR. NICHOLIA: Yeah, right.
10
11
                   MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, you usually have
12 a calendar in your book, but recently the meeting window,
13 which this time starts September 27th runs to October 29th
14 recently shifted. It used to be September 15th, 17th to
15 another date beyond that. We shifted it more into fall.
16 now it is September 27th through October 29th. Michelle put
17 this together pretty quick, you know, we don't have copies
18 for each of you individually.
19
20
           The North Slope Regional Council is going to meet in
21 Anchorage on the 19th and 20th. The AFN Convention is here.
22 I believe the Elder's Conference is the 18th through the
23 20th. March -- or whatever it is, October 11th is a holiday,
24 but in the past that didn't factor, so that's the window, so
25 we need to select dates.
26
27
           I've talked to many of you individually, we've talked
28 about maybe a joint meeting, we talked about various things.
29 I think in your thinking of a date of when to meet with
30 fisheries, and if it's a joint meeting, that you need to look
31 at a three day meeting. If it's a regular meeting on your
32 own, I would look at another two full days to meet.
33 joint meeting would be with Western Interior because of the
34 fisheries.
35
36
           So that's it, so what suggestions you have for dates
37 and then we need to look at topics.
38
                  MR. NICHOLIA: 6th and 7th of October.
39
40
41
                   MR. MATHEWS: And you'll kind of have to
42 speak up, I'm right next to the fan.
43
44
                   MR. NICHOLIA: 6th and 7th of October,
45 Wednesday/Thursday.
46
47
                  MR. MATHEWS: Okay.
48
49
                  MR. P. TITUS: Is that with new Board
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50 members?

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00249
                  MR. MATHEWS: What?
1
2
3
                  MR. P. TITUS: We'll have new Board members,
4 right, at this meeting?
5
6
                  MR. MATHEWS: Well, we don't know how the
7
  selection process will go through....
8
9
                  MR. P. TITUS: (Indiscernible - simultaneous
10 speech) putting our name or not.
11
                  MR. MATHEWS: Well, it doesn't mean
12
13 automatically you're going to get reappointed, but....
14
15
                  MR. P. TITUS: Well, I'm not going to put in
16 my name, okay, so you're going to have a new Board member.
17
                  MR. MATHEWS: You're not putting in you name?
18
19
20
                  MR. P. TITUS: I said.
21
22
                  MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Then we will have a new
23 Board members. So the 6th and 7th. Okay. What locations?
24
25
                  UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Fort Yukon.
26
                  MR. MATHEWS: Okay, I heard Fort Yukon as an
27
28 option. We did have lodging problems there before, so Fort
29 Yukon the 6th and 7th. We need an alternate location.
30
31
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: How about Eagle, we ain't
32 met in Eagle.
33
34
                  MR. MATHEWS: We can go to Eagle, I mean
35 there's no problem going to Eagle. There's the Yukon Charley
36 National Rivers Preserve, whatever that is there, so we're
37 right on top of, you know, Federal lands there.
38
          So if I understand correctly then, 6th and 7th, first
40 choice is Fort Yukon, second choice is Eagle.
41
          Any thoughts about a joint meeting with Western
42
43 Interior? It may not be needed at this time, but you're
44 going to need it at some point with fisheries, possibly with
45 Western and Yukon-Kuskokwim.
46
47
          UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: And Southcentral.
48
                  MR. MATHEWS: And Southcentral? Holy smokes.
49
50 Okay, it doesn't seem like you want to do it at this time.
```

50 is that when the....

00250 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Well, something like that 1 2 you should have in Fairbanks or someplace to accommodate 3 everybody. 4 5 MR. MATHEWS: But we're not looking at it 6 this fall is what you're saying. Okay. The topics I heard 7 so far, and I know it's late in the meeting, but I assume 8 that the topics would be, correct me if I'm wrong, discussion 9 of caribou up in 25(A) would be a topic. Any other topics in 10 particular? There was quite a bits of discussion on muskrat, 11 I don't know if there would be any to present, but..... 12 13 MR. C. TRITT: Fisheries. 14 15 MR. MATHEWS: Well, fisheries automatically 16 will be. If the Legislature does not action or takes action 17 that's not in compliance with ANILCA, we're swimming next 18 fall, there's no doubt about it, we're going to be fishing. 19 20 MR. FLEENER: So we should have a joint 21 meeting then. 22 23 MR. MATHEWS: That's what I'm saying. 24 25 MR. FLEENER: Then we should have a joint 26 meeting. 27 28 MR. P. TITUS: Two different meetings? 29 30 MR. MATHEWS: No. No. 31 32 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Have you talked to Eastern 33 Interior on the.... 34 35 MR. MATHEWS: No. Well, I'm talking to 36 Eastern now. 37 38 CHAIRMAN MILLER: I mean Western. 39 40 MR. MATHEWS: You're starting to talk like 41 George. No, but you could start the ball rolling and say 42 that you would like to explore the idea of having a joint 43 meeting with Western Interior. 44 45 MR. P. TITUS: October 1st is the day they 46 take over? 47 48 MR. FLEENER: That's why it would be good to 49 have a joint meeting because if they take over October 1st,

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00251
                  MR. MATHEWS: October 1st is when the
1
2
  regulations go into effect.
3
                  MR. FLEENER: October 6th would be the
5 perfect time to discuss it.
6
7
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: How about the 6th, 7th, and
8
  8th in Fairbanks?
9
10
                  MR. MATHEWS: Okay. That is an option, you
11 know, I mean if -- okay, if I can capsulate it, your first
12 option is Fort Yukon, second is Eagle. If Western Interior
13 is sympathetic to a joint meeting it would be 6th, 7th and
14 8th in Fairbanks.
15
                   MR. GOOD: At the hotel on the Chena River.
16
17
                   MR. MATHEWS: No, I checked into that
18
19 (indiscernible - laughter)
20
21
                   MR. FLEENER: Well, we want to meet at
22 Sophie's.
23
24
                   MR. P. TITUS: Peter John Tribal Hall is
25 opening pretty soon.
26
27
                  MR. MATHEWS: I can't hear you, what?
28
                                     Tanana Chiefs got new hall.
29
                  MR. DAVEY JAMES:
30
31
                   MR. P. TITUS: Tanana Chiefs got new
32 convention center.
33
                   MR. MATHEWS: Yeah, they do have a new
34
35 convention -- Peter John Convention Hall or Conference Hall,
36 whatever. Okay. Is that the wishes of the Council then,
37 those three options?
38
           (No audible responses)
39
40
41
                   MR. MATHEWS: And so we will bring it up to
42 Western Interior on that next week. There's something we're
43 forgetting.
44
45
                   MR. P. TITUS: Forgetting to adjourn.
46
47
                   MR. FLEENER: We need topics for a joint
48 session?
49
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MR. MATHEWS: No, topics for a joint session

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are a given, it's going to be fisheries.
2
                   MR. FLEENER: Topics for the agenda?
3
4
5
                  MR. MATHEWS: Yeah, and I think we already
6
  covered that, caribou was one for 25(A) and.....
7
8
                  MR. DAVEY JAMES: Or the harvest quota.
9
10
                  MR. MATHEWS: What?
11
12
                  MR. FLEENER: The harvest quota.
13
14
                  MR. MATHEWS: That's out of our realm right
15 now, but the State could be encouraged or invited to speak on
16 the community harvest.....
17
                   MR. FLEENER: Terry's nodding yes.
18
19
20
                   MR. MATHEWS: Terry's nodding yes, okay.
21
22
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: You know, something else
23 that we should keep going is this co-management that we're
24 working on. That could be an agenda item for next meeting.
25
                   MR. MATHEWS: Yes, it would be. Ida would be
26
27 able to assist if she's going to come to that meeting because
28 the Staff Committee is, in their development of a plan for
29 fisheries, is looking at cooperative management or something
30 similar to that, so the timing would be really good for that.
31
32
                   MR. FLEENER: I think the, you know, the
33 intensive management discussion also. I know that you
34 pointed out that it's not right within our realm, but
35 intensive management is important, especially in the Yukon
36 Flats where there's not very many moose, it's an item of
37 importance.
38
39
                  MR. MATHEWS: True. We'll bring a solicitor
40 along.
41
                  MR. FLEENER: Get Keith out of his office.
42
43
44
                   MR. MATHEWS: Because seriously the topics
45 you're touching upon have different ramification, but sure
46 that -- if we're going to be launching into implementation
47 that needs to be discussed in fisheries as well as wildlife
48 or terrestrial or whatever.
49
           Okay, we don't need any more topics. I'm just trying
50
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00253 to get an idea because when I put the agenda together then generally get agency comments, since you guys are busy with other things and I'm trying to capture it all now. 5 MR. DAVEY JAMES: Somewhere on the agenda 6 would be a good one too, the muskrats, you know, you touched 7 on the muskrats, but that's..... 8 9 MR. MATHEWS: Well, I'm just going by level 10 of discussion, I'm not making it a topic, but..... 11 12 MR. DAVEY JAMES: Yeah. 13 14 MR. MATHEWS: And I don't know if there would 15 be any reports available. 16 17 MR. FLEENER: I think the muskrat issue is an 18 important issue, but as it's been pointed out, I don't think 19 there's been any studies on the muskrat, no one has paid any 20 attention and maybe what we can request is that someone in 21 the staff look to see if there is historical data on muskrat 22 numbers and a place to look might be in harvest records and 23 look at fluctuations in harvest records. The price has 24 always been fairly low on rats so it's not like there's a big 25 difference in price, so that would affect hunting or not. 26 that might be a good place to look to see if there's 27 fluctuations in populations. 28 29 MR. MATHEWS: I think what you're indicating 30 there is that -- possibly what we did the meeting before last 31 is sent an invitation letter to different agencies touching 32 about the topics, because many of them have left because of a 33 scheduling conflict. I know they all read the minute 34 religiously, but it might be good to have a letter sent out. 35 36 MR. FLEENER: Terry reads them religiously. 37 38 MR. MATHEWS: Yes. 39 40 MR. MATHEWS: I don't want to run the 41 meeting, but Connie has her hand up. 42 CHAIRMAN MILLER: Connie. 43 44 45 MS. FRIEND: Mr. Chairman, as the person who 46 runs this business by the seat of my pants and experience 47 from learning only, I'd like to take a minute to thank Craig

46 runs this business by the seat of my pants and experience 47 from learning only, I'd like to take a minute to thank Craig 48 Fleener for all the teaching and all of his great 49 contribution to this process and wish him well in his studies 50 and to -- for him to hurry back.

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00254
           Thank you.
2
           (Applause)
3
4
5
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: We agree on that.
6
                   MR. FLEENER: Thank you.
7
8
9
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: We're done, huh.
10
                   MR. P. TITUS: Move to adjourn.
11
12
13
                   UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Second.
14
15
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Okay, it's been moved and
16 seconded to adjourn.
17
                   MR. GOOD: Question.
18
19
20
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: Question has been called
21 for, all in favor.
22
23
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
24
25
                   CHAIRMAN MILLER: All opposed?
26
27
           (No opposing responses)
28
           (Off record - 3:47 p.m.)
29
30
31
                        (MEETING ADJOURNED)
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| 00 | 255 |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | CERTIFICATE |
| 2 | |
| 3 | UNITED STATES OF AMERICA) |
| 4 |)ss. |
| 5 | STATE OF ALASKA) |
| 6 | |
| 7 | I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the |
| 8 | State of Alaska and Owner of Computer Matrix, do hereby |
| 9 10 | certify: |
| 11 | THAT the foregoing pages numbered 150 through 254 |
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| | MEETING, taken electronically by David Haynes on the 28th day |
| | of February, 1999, beginning at the hour of 8:44 o'clock a.m. |
| | at the Delta Community Hall, Delta Junction, Alaska; |
| 17 | |
| 18 | THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript |
| 19 | requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by |
| 20 | under my direction to the best of my knowledge and ability; |
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| 22 | THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party |
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| 31 | Joseph P. Kolasinski |
| 32 | Notary Public in and for Alaska |
| 33 | My Commission Expires: 4/17/00 |
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